



SOCCER ACTION

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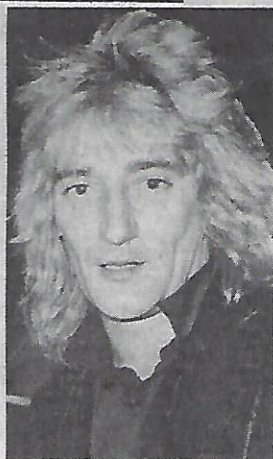
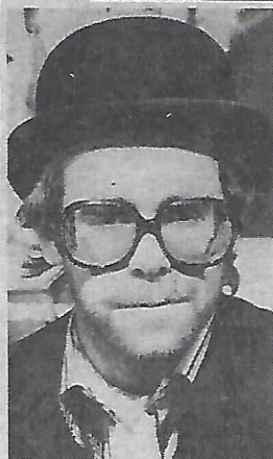
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The Australian
under 19 squad

Arise Sir Elton,
arise Sir Rod. . .



Elton John (left) and Rod Stewart (right) are among the first "Soccer Knights."

For dedication to soccer the two rock superstars have been included in the inaugural "Soccer Action" New Year's Honors List.

Sir Elton and Sir Rod, together with Henry Kissinger are probably the most widely known soccer devotees in the world.

Elton is chairman of English club Watford and owner of the Los Angeles Aztecs.

Rod, who is touring Australia in February, is mad about Scotland. He has a videotape made of every game played by Scotland's national team.

By publicly proclaiming their enthusiasm for soccer, Elton John and Rod Stewart are giving the sport world-wide publicity worth millions of dollars.

Oh, how Australian soccer would benefit were a local club to succeed in getting Rod Stewart involved in some sort of soccer promotion while he's here.

Our full list of New Year's Honors appears on pages 2 and 3.

NEW ROOS BORN SUNDAY

The search for Australia's 1981-82 World Cup team starts in Sydney on Sunday when an experimental Australian X1 meets Polish champion Wisla Krakow at the Sports Ground.

National coach Rudi Gutendorf picked the squad before he flew to South America, and left it in the care of Marconi coach Les Scheinflug.

Senior players were to have been flown to South America to link up with the under 19s for an extended tour, but this plan fell through.

And so the game against Wisla offers many aspiring Socceroos their first big chance.

Goalkeeper **Todd Clarke** (Sydney City) is injured and has been replaced by **Allan Maher** (Marconi).

Of the players who will meet Wisla, five are almost certain to stay in the Australia squad for the 1981 World Cup qualifying matches.

They are: right back **Kevin Mullen** (Sydney City), centre back **Tony Henderson** (Marconi), midfielder or striker **Murray Barnes** (Sydney City), winger **Peter Sharpe** (Marconi) and striker **Phil O'Connor** (St George).

Another who is well in the running is **Joe Picione** the brilliant ball wizard of Footscray J.U.S.T.

A surprise selection in the squad is goalkeeper **Michael Fray**, who transferred a few weeks ago from APIA to St George, after trialling in West Germany last season.

Sutherland full back **Keith Schumann** is the only untried State League player in the squad.

Sebastiano Giampaolo of State League club Inter Monaro was tried out last year, against Greece.

The Australian forward line will face three Polish World Cup players: **Antoni Szymanowski**, **Adam Nawalka** and **Henryk Maculewicz**.

The Australian defence is the only department that virtually picks itself for this match **Maher**, **Mullen**, **Henderson**, **Steve O'Connor** (Sydney City), **Paul Degney** (Marconi).

Barnes and **Picione** are certain to play in midfield, with the other position going to either **John O'Shea** (St George), **Mark Jankovics** (Marconi) or **Ian Souness** (Sydney City).

Up front, **Sharpe** is certain to be on one wing, with the other going to either **Phil O'Connor** or **Silva**.

Ken Boden will play as central striker.

Wisla, one of the strongest teams yet to visit Australia, will also play in Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide.

Last December, Rudi Gutendorf named a 37-man squad from which players will be drawn for future matches.

The candidates named by Gutendorf are: **Steve Kokoska**, **Duncan Cummings**, **Mando Ristovski**, **Gary Cole**, **Joe Picione**, **Peter Laumeta**, **Jim Tansay**, **Torrey Cummings** (Victoria); **Tony Henderson**, **John Davies**, **Harry Williams** (Canberra); **Phil O'Connor**, **Steve O'Connor**, **Brendan Grose**, **John O'Shea**, **Murray Barnes**, **Kevin Mullen**, **Todd Clarke**, **John Stevenson**, **Paul Degney**, **Peter Sharpe**, **Allan Maher**, **Mark Jankovics**, **Gary Meier**, **Peter Stone**, **Ian Stone**, **Terry Butler** (NSW); **David Jones**, **Martyn Cook**, **Vic Bozovic**, **John Nykko**, **Les Bazzani**, **Gary Marocci**, **Reid McCann** (SA); **Ian Steele**, **Col Bennett**, **Larry Gaffney** (Qld); **Arno Bortogno** (WA).

A lift-out supplement on Wisla's tour starts on page 7.

Under 19s CAN

win it

By Laurie Schwab

Despite what all the pessimists have been saying, Australia CAN win its Coca Cola world youth championship qualifying games in South America.

Sure, the South Americans are skilful players, but **Alan Davidson**, **George Christopoulos**, **Peter Tradinick**, **Theo Sele-**



midia and **Craig Hall** aren't exactly cartorses. These and a few others certainly have skill enough to cause the Latins a lot of problems.

In addition Australia has running power, enthusiasm, a fair degree of brains and a match-winner in striker **Eddie Krcovic**. In 1974 he-one gave Australia a chance of winning its two-match series against Uruguay. However, the Socceroos played it close and hard to nullify the Latins' ball skills, resulting in a 0-0 draw in Melbourne and a 2-0 win in Sydney.

The young Socceroos are capable of similar feats. When a player dons the green and gold he finds, previously untapped reservoirs of endurance and determination.

The team did not know the identity of its South American opponent before it left Sydney at the weekend.

This opponent will be the team that finishes third in the South American group qualifying tournament. The Socceroos will be in Rio by the time they hear of the outcome.

Their other opponent is Israel.

Sydney Olympic midfielder **Peter Raskopoulos** withdrew from the Australian squad at the last minute, so that he could be with his seriously ill girlfriend.

The squad is: Goalkeepers: **Peter Wilson**, **Greg Woodhouse** (NSW); defenders: **George Christopoulos** (Vic), **Michael Boogard**, **Ian Rowden** (NSW), **Steve Hogg**, **Mike Milovanovic**, **Danny Moulis** (A.C.T.); John Spence (SA); midfielders: **Peter Tradinick** (NSW), **Alan Davidson**, **Theo Selamida** (Vic); forwards: **Eddie Krcovic** (Vic), **Paul Kay**, **Craig Hall**, **Ian Hunter**, **Graham Jennings** (NSW).

Officials with the team: **Michael Weinstein** (ASF vice-president, tour leader); **Rudi Gutendorf** (coach); **Dr Keith Pearson** (medical officer); **Brian Emery** (administrator); **Joe Wasita** (technical officer); **Peter van Ryn** (physiotherapist); **Peter Bent** (Coca Cola, team liaison officer).

Itinerary of the qualifying tournament (CONMEBOL denotes the initials of the South American Federation, of which the eventual South American qualifier is a member):

Feb 7: CONMEBOL v Israel; Feb 9: Israel v Australia; Feb 11: Australia v CONMEBOL; Feb 14: Australia v Israel; Feb 16: CONMEBOL v Australia; Feb 18: Israel v CONMEBOL.

Results of recent practice matches against overseas teams: AUSTRALIA 1 (Raskopoulos) VARDAR SKOPJE 5 at Middle Park, Melbourne.

Australia Woodhouse (Oven); Moulis (Hogg); Roden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic (Spence); Se-

Tony Henderson



Joe Picione

Cont. page 3

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER AUSTRALIA XI vs WISLA, POLAND

4.00 p.m. Sunday 4th February
— Sydney Sports Ground

Reserved seats at \$6 and \$5 each available at Mitchell's Bass Booking Service — Hunter Arcade, Wynyard, Regent Theatre — City and all 10 Grace Bros Stores.

NSW Fed of Soccer Clubs — 189 Kent St. Sydney

Schaefer joins us

Former Socceroo Manfred Schaefer has joined "Soccer Action" as a guest columnist.

Schaefer, the rugged centre back in Australia's 1974 World Cup team, will from next week write the same way he used to play — straight ahead with no 'beg your pardons'.

Another new feature in "Soccer Action" is pools expert **Michael Morley**, whose first column appears on page 16.



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Saturday & Sunday
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...Frampton, Wakeman are fans too

The glittering, extravagant lifestyle of jet-setting, millionaire rock stars would be a dream come true for the average man in the street.

Elton John, who at one time accounted for a staggering two per cent of yearly record sales throughout the world, spends thousands of dollars adding to his collection of weird spectacles.

Peter Frampton, who with the aid of cute curly locks and a clean-cut smile became a millionaire inside a year, spends time prancing about on a movie set with his latest pastime, motion pictures.

And when Rod Stewart sings "Blondes Have More Fun," you get a fair idea of what he likes doing on "quiet" week nights!

But away from the cut-throat, pretentious rock music industry, Rod, Pete and Elton shed their millionaire status and join a pastime shared by the masses from Glasgow to Buenos Aires, Madrid to Moscow.

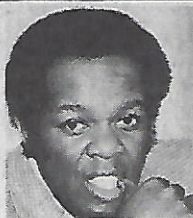
Yes — Rod, Pete and Elton are soccer fanatics!

As a result of their enthusiasm for the world's number one sport, the talented trio has made valuable contributions to the game.

Elton John has probably made the biggest contribution.

As a supporter of English club Watford, John didn't have much to shout about as his team languished in the Fourth Division.

But he started to get in-



Lou Rawls

volved with the club, first by giving it money.

When he decided to take an extended break from touring and eased his heavy recording schedule, John had more time to devote to Watford and he was quickly elected to the board of directors.

His love for the club is total.

In 1978, John was taxed \$3,000,000 on his earnings as the British Government, swamped by economic problems, whacked an incredibly high rate of tax on the rich. Many other performers left Britain for tax havens but not John. How could he support Watford from a foreign country?

Now he is chairman of Watford, with the club on the brink of winning promotion to the Second Division.

He has plans to build a super stadium not only for soccer supporters, but for the community as a whole.

He is deeply concerned with junior soccer, and has been a chief organizer for several years of the "Superstars" group of entertainers who play exhibition matches to

raise money for underprivileged soccer youngsters, kids who live in poor areas and have no soccer balls or pitches on which to play.

John also owns American club the Los Angeles Aztecs. Although Rod Stewart hasn't involved himself as much as John, he is a great public relations man for the game.

Soccer doesn't need promotion in many countries because to half the world, it is a religion.

But in countries like Australia and the USA where soccer is a secondary sport, Stewart's popularity and mass exposure will open doors for soccer.

The record he made with the Scottish World Cup squad — "Ole Ole" — gained considerable airplay in Australia, and reached number 10 in the national charts.

A filmclip Stewart made to promote a 1978 single, "You're In My Heart," include action shots from one of Scotland's European championship matches.

The filmclip was shown on three national pop music shows Countdown, Sound Unlimited and Nightmoves and viewers couldn't miss the soccer connection.

Stewart's exposure of soccer in Australia will do a lot to help break down the wall of prejudice against the sport. Soccer has a chance of becoming respectable in the eyes of music fans, who previously snarled and made distasteful reference to Australian soccer's ethnic following.

By KYLE PATTERSON

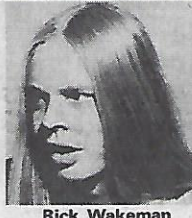
In the USA Stewart's obsession with soccer will add a bit of glamour, a touch more tinsel and another big name to soccer in that country.

Stewart's interest in soccer lies primarily with the Scottish national team. He often wears Scottish scarves and rosettes (even when not at games).

Stewart has appeared on USA television programme "Celebrity Sports" in a penalty showdown against Hugh McDowell, a member of top rock group Electric Light Orchestra.

Stewart won the showdown 4-1.

Peter Frampton, English born, gained all his success in



Rick Wakeman

the USA last year, along with Rick Wakeman (of rock group "Yes") and Paul Simon (ex-Simon and Garfunkel) got together and bought the franchise of N.A.S.L. club the Philadelphia Furries.

After one Furries defeat,

Frampton was heard to say to his business manager Dee Anthony: "I'll have to go on tour this year. We need money to buy more players."

There are several other leading entertainers who have shown an interest in soccer, but as yet haven't done as much as the people mentioned.

American singer Lou Rawls, who toured Australia recently, is an "official" supporter of the N.A.S.L.

Robert Plant of leading rock group Led Zeppelin, trained with English First Division team Wolves during the club's 1978-79 pre-season workouts.

The singer was recovering from a car accident, and was about to start a strenuous

tour of the USA. He figured training would get him in top shape.

Rock group E.L.O. surprised the band's Australian promoter by asking if there were parks near the hotels they were booked into. Several of the group's members are soccer fans, and wanted to find a park to have a kick about!

The rock music industry and the world of soccer are poles apart in some areas. But thanks to the likes of John, Stewart and Frampton, the gap has been shortened.

Maybe one day Stewart, Frampton or John will record a song with the Australian World Cup squad. "C'MON SOCCEROOS, C'MON C'MON."

PRESENTING THE KNIGHTS OF 1979

The names Herman Huyer and Ted Harris may not mean much to the average soccer fan — but both are deserving "Soccer Knights" in "Soccer Action's" inaugural New Year's Honors list.

Philips Industries, under Mr Huyer, its chairman, made possible the formation of the Philips League by sponsoring it for \$450,000.

And Mr Harris is managing director of Ampol Petroleum which, as backer of the Ampol Cup, is the longest-standing sponsor of Australian soccer.

The other recipients of our "Soccer Knighthoods" are synonymous with soccer either internationally or nationally.

The full list is:

SOCCER KNIGHTS, 1978-79

(world list, non-players)

ROD STEWART and ELTON JOHN: See page one and separate story.

HENRY KISSINGER, former U.S. Secretary of State added considerable prestige to American soccer when he became chairman of the North American Soccer League.

JOAO HAVELANGE, president of the FIFA. When he took over from Sir Stanley Rous five years ago, Havelange promised: to increase the number of competitors in the World Cup finals, to start a world championships for under 20 players, to start the building of new FIFA



Kissinger

Schoen

Keegan

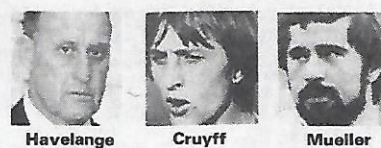
headquarters in Zurich, to assist developing soccer nations, to intensify courses for referees, doctors, coaches, physiotherapists and instructors as well as administrators. Havelange has kept all these promises — including the first, for it appears at the moment that there will be more than 16 nations in the World Cup finals in Spain in 1982.

DEREK DOUGAN, since retiring from playing with Wolves and Northern Ireland, Dougan has directed his energies towards winning a better deal for British players, in his job as leader of the Professional Footballers' Association. He is a leading negotiator in the players' successful bid for freedom of contract. Dougan is also involved in charity work through soccer.

BRIAN GLANVILLE, journalist, probably the foremost soccer writer in the world, this long-serving "Sunday Times" columnist is also author of "The Sunday Times History of the World Cup," "The Rise of Gerry Logan" and "The Olympian." He also wrote and helped edit "Goal," the film of the 1966 World Cup. This intelligent and analytical writer also has a column in "World Soccer."

(world list, players & managers)

CESAR LUIS MENOTTI, coach of Argentina's 1978 World Cup-winning team. Six months before the World Cup, Menotti said: "If I play four backs and five halves it would be easier, but we can't go into a World Cup with these tactics, which are played by our club teams. They use high passes into the goalmouth in the hope that someone will head them in. Everybody defends and hopes a fast counter-attack will catch the opposition unaware. I don't want this to be the image of Argentine soccer. With the national team I would like to destroy old theories which are no longer of any use. I would like to show that we can win by playing good attacking soccer." In Mario Kempes, Osvaldo Ardiles, Daniel Bertoni and Leopoldo Luque Menotti found men who could play attacking soccer and in Daniel Passarella and Alberto Tarantini he had creative backmen to support them. After Argentina had beaten Holland 3-1 in the World Cup final, Menotti said: "We have shown that with talent, courage in attack, and planning a team that knows how to attack, we can become world champions."



Havelange

Cruyff

Mueller

HELMUT SCHOEN, the West German national coach who retired after achieving greater success than any other national coach in soccer history. This wise old man who succeeded the great Sepp Herberger, took Germany to victory in the 1974 World Cup, to second place in 1966 and third place in 1970. Under Schoen Germany also won the 1972 European championship and came second in the 1976 title.

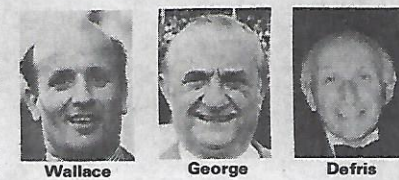
KEVIN GREENWOOD, breathed new life into English representative soccer when appointed national team manager to succeed Don Revie. Greenwood, who, as boss of West Ham United, groomed such stars as Bobby Moore and Geoff Hurst, succeeded in moulding an enthusiastic, adventurous national team to a high level of skill. Had qualified for the World Cup finals. Greenwood's team would have made a strong bid for the Cup itself.

KEVIN KEEGAN, the captain of England and former star of Liverpool took time to settle into the Rhythm of West German football with Hamburger SV but he finally adjusted, won the support of a few more of his team mates and won the European Footballer of the Year trophy.

MARIO KEMPES, proved in the World Cup that he is the No. 1 footballer in the world. Kempes scored two goals and set one up for Daniel Bertoni in Argentina's 3-1 victory over Holland in the World Cup final. With a total of six goals, he was the top scorer in the World Cup finals, and he was also voted the best player. Kempes, 24, was born in Argentina but plays for Spanish club Valencia which bought him for \$600,000 from Rosario Central. He has been top scorer of both the Argentinian and Spanish leagues.

JOHAN CRUYFF, retired after a glorious career with Ajax Amsterdam, Holland and Barcelona, and has so far resisted multi-million dollar offers from various American clubs. He will, however, play a series of friendly games in Saudi Arabia soon. A giant of world soccer, Cruyff's name will go down in the history books alongside those of Pele, Beckenbauer, Di Stefano, Puskas, Charlton and Best.

GERD MUELLER, of Bayern Munich, one of the most amazing goalscorers in soccer history. "Der Bomber" is playing his last season of top soccer. Mueller's incredible record includes having been top scorer in the German Bundesliga six times and runner-up twice, as well as top-scoring in the 1970 World Cup finals.



Wallace

George

Defris

JOHN GREIG, in his last year as a player, he helped Glasgow Rangers win the Premier League championship, the Scottish Cup and the League Cup. He then took over from Jack Wallace as Rangers' manager. Greig started his association with Rangers in 1962 against Airdrie after playing for junior league club Edina Hearts, and was capped 44 times for Scotland.

ALKETAS PANAGOULIAS, coach of Greece, his leadership ranks as one of the most courageous in world soccer as he is the man who is phasing out the brilliant but ageing superstars — Papadimitriou, Domazos, Antoniadis — and replacing them with promising younger men. Greece's Australian tour of 1978 was part of Panagoulis' rebuilding programme.

GIANNI RIVERA, president and chief shareholder of AC Milan, the club that is scheduled to tour Australia this year. Rivera played in the 1962, 1966, 1970 and 1974 World Cups and was the star of Milan's European Cup victory over Benfica at Wembley in 1963. Before that he played in Italy's 1960 Olympic team. Since transferring from his local club Alessandria in 1960, Rivera has played only with AC Milan, showing commendable loyalty in the era of the soccer mercenary.

(Australian list non-players)

HERMAN HUYER and TED HARRIS, see above. SID GRANT, Australia's foremost soccer historian, this Newcastle-born, retired schoolteacher worked as a soccer writer with Australian newspapers for about 40 years, was a State president and national selector. In a sport starved of the trappings of tradition, Grant has worked hard to weave legends and to build reputations. He is the author of "Soccer Records," a Jack Pollard book.

GEORGE WALLACE, secretary of the Victorian Soccer Federation. One of Australia's most astute soccer administrators, this former FIFA referee has the mammoth job of overseeing a State which accepts more centralised responsibility than any other. It was fitting that he was chosen to lecture on administration as part of a FIFA developmental visit to Fiji.



Weinstein

Rodny

Marmaras

SIR ARTHUR GEORGE, president of the Australian Soccer Federation. Having been "knighthood" by "Soccer Action" as well as by the Queen, will he now be known as Sir Sir Arthur? During this man's leadership, soccer has experienced unprecedented progress. There have been two world tours, an Asian tour, two World Cup campaigns, the formation of the Philips League, and now entry to the Coca Cola world youth championship and hopefully, the Olympic Games. Sir Arthur's biggest success, however, has been in winning for soccer rich commercial sponsorship from such firms as Coca Cola, the Wales Bank, Travelodge, Philips Industries and Rothmans.

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Peter Frampton-part-owner of the Philadelphia Furries

SOCCER



Barry Abonyi Micic

HARRY LAKMAKER, long-serving stalwart of Hakoah-East, which has adopted the new name Sydney City. It is men like Lakmaker who laid the foundations for soccer in Australia by serving on Federation management committees and by helping to build clubs which accept nothing but the best from everyone associated with it. This has certainly been the case with Hakoah.

KURT DEFIRIS, secretary of Hakoah-St Kilda for 32 years. The comments made about Lakmaker apply equally to Kurt Defiris, former Victorian Federation official, hard-working official in junior soccer and of course the "father" of Hakoah. Also a leading administrator in table tennis and ice hockey, Defiris was honored in 1976 when he was made a member of the Order of Australia.

MICHAEL WEINSTEIN, chairman of the Victorian Soccer Federation, vice-president of the Australian Soccer Federation, tour leader of the Australian under 19 team that is now in South America trying to qualify for the finals of the Coca Cola world youth championship. Weinstein has long been one of the shrewdest administrators in soccer and our leading negotiator for tours by overseas teams.

KAREL RODNY, president of the NSW Federation of Soccer Clubs, and president of the great Prague club of the early sixties. He was among the founders of the Federation in 1955 and has been president of Hakoah-East as well as Prague.

THEO MARMARAS, adds our "knighthood" to the MBE he already holds. Marmaras is president of the Victorian Soccer Federation, former chairman of the Australian Federation and former president of South Melbourne Hellas. He was a leading negotiator for Australia's re-admission to FIFA in 1983.

ANDY BURTON, an administrator of senior and junior soccer for more than 50 years and one of the true pioneers of NSW soccer. A former president of the defunct Southern Soccer League, he was leading light in the foundation of the NSW Soccer Federation in 1957 and became its first president.

JIM CONNELL, South Australia's leading administrator, who was co-manager of the Australian team that toured Asia in 1967. Born in England, he was connected with amateur soccer there before he moved to South Australia where he became chairman of that State's soccer federation, and also an ASF official.



Watkiss Cirkovic Pantelis

JOHN BARCLAY, has been fading into the background in recent years but deserves recognition for his long hard work for soccer on Victorian and national levels. A former VFL chairman and chairman of the Victorian Metropolitan League, he was team manager of the Socceroos on the 1967 Asian tour, the 1969 World Cup tour and the 1973-74 World Cup tour. In recent years he has confined himself to the affairs of Victorian State League club Frankston City.

(Australian list, players & managers)

ATTILA ABONYI, celebrated his first year in coaching by leading Sydney Croatia to the NSW State League championship. Abonyi started with Melbourne-Hungaria from where he switched to St George Budapest in 1968 and then to Croatia in 1977. He has scored 36 goals (25 in full internationals) for the national team, more than anyone else since Federation. Capped for the first time against Scotland in 1967, Abonyi has played 88 games for the Socceroos, including 58 full internationals and has taken part in three World Cup campaigns — a truly remarkable record.

PETER WILSON, captain of the Socceroos from 1971 to 1977 inclusive. During this period he played a record 113 games with the national team, 61 of them full internationals. He played in the 1973-74 and 1977 World Cup campaigns and has served with South Coast United (later called Safeway), Marconi and Western Suburbs. When the short-lived Wests-APIA partnership broke up recently, APIA bought Wilson and other leading Western Suburbs players.

JIMMY ROONEY, like Abonyi and Wilson, Rooney may have seen his international career come to an end in 1978, when he failed to be selected for the series against Greece. Rooney played 84 games, including 45 internationals, for the Socceroos from 1971 to 1977 inclusive. The former Lions VFL, Prague, APIA, Marconi and Victorian and NSW State player, is now with Fitzroy.

FRANK MICIC, veteran of almost 1000 league, Cup and representative matches from 1959 when he arrived in Melbourne, until early 1978 when he hung up his boots. Micic switched to coaching last year and brought Hakoah-St Kilda into the top four for the first time in more than 10 years. All but one of his years as a player were spent with Footscray U.S.T. The other year — 1968 — was spent with South Melbourne Hellas.

Continued page 10

Olympic games in Indonesia?

Australia may play its Olympic Games qualifying matches against Taiwan in Indonesia.

Australia was asked to play home and away but the Australian Government would not issue the Taiwanese with visas. So the ASF suggested that it

play the two qualifying matches in Indonesia or Singapore. The Indonesia FA has said it would host the matches and is keen for both teams to also play

friendly games against the Indonesian national team.

The ASF does not know what classification of players it would use for the Olympic team amateurs, the under 19 youth squad or the full Socceroo squad.

If Australia beats Taiwan, it will advance to the Asian group two, qualifying tournament in which it would play against Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

Three Asian teams will qualify for the finals in Moscow.

The other two will come from two further Asian tournaments. They are:

Group one: Bahrain, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Yemen. Group Three: Iran, India, Burma, Sri Lanka, North Korea, Singapore.

Qualifiers for other parts of the world will be three from Africa, two from South America, two from CONCACAF, six from Europe (including host USSR and defending Olympic champion East Germany).

Meanwhile FIFA's threat of withdrawing soccer from the Olympics remains hanging over the Moscow games.

FIFA voted 72-18 to ban all European and South American players who took part in the 1978 World Cup from playing in the Olympic tournament.

But the International Olympic Committee told FIFA the ruling was contrary to the IOC's eligibility rules and could not be applied for 1980.

FIFA has since said that if the IOC does not accept FIFA's decision FIFA may withdraw soccer from the Olympics.

Fame pays off



KRNCVIC DAVIDSON

Five members of the Australian under 19 squad cashed in on their newly-found fame when they joined Philips League clubs during the off-season.

The most expensive transfer was that of Eddie Krncevic from Essendon Croatia to Marconi for \$9000.

Krncevic is expected to be a fully professional player with Marconi, earning at least \$200 a week plus bonuses.

Krncevic has progressed from reserve grade soccer to national stardom in just over a year. He was an unknown youngster when he stepped into Croatia's senior team for the 1978 Ampol Cup competition.

He scored four goals in Croatia's semi-final and was scoring regularly in the league when a broken leg put him out for most of the season.

He started scoring again when he returned late that year, finishing the season with 18 goals in league and Cup games.

Coach Bobby McLachlan selected Krncevic for the Australian Schoolboys squad that toured North America and Krncevic seized the opportunity to further boost his reputation, finishing the tour with a bagful of goals and catching the eye of the Seattle Sounders.

The Sounders wanted him to come to Australia but he decided this would affect his chances of playing for Australia in the next World Cup, so he stayed put.

Under 19 midfielder Alan Davidson transferred from Altona City to South Mel-

bourne Hellas for \$1000, the fee stipulated in his contract with Altona.

He had earlier been sent to join J.U.S.T. but the two could not agree on terms.

At South Melbourne, Davidson is vying with Ken Drakeford, George Christopoulos, Sammy Wright and Bertie Lutton for three midfield positions.

Jeff Oliver, who was dropped from the under 19 squad just before the trip to South America, has transferred from Albion Rovers to Fitzroy, the club of his under 19 team mate, Theo Selemidis.

John Spanos, of Western Australian club Ascot, has transferred to Adelaide City, now coached by Rale Rasic.

Victorian club Green Gully Ajax is angry over the transfer. Its president, Guy Spiteri, claims Spanos was flown to Melbourne for trials last year and signed amateur forms for Green Gully.

Malcolm McClelland, who was dropped from the under 19s at the last minute after demanding from coach Gutendorf an assurance that he would be in the opening eleven in South America, has been transferred from Adamstown Rosebud to Newcastle KB United.

Don't learn the hard way

To be wise after the event is of no value at all, but each season many Victorian soccer players are learning a lesson the hard way.

Any player who takes part in a game of soccer is at risk of sustaining a serious injury. Fortunately, accidents on the field that disable players aren't too frequent, but still many clubs and players refuse to acknowledge the danger involved.

And that danger can seriously affect the welfare of a player and his family.

Just ask any player in the State League who broke a leg last season. Without adequate insurance cover, a player sustaining a fractured leg, may be off work (if a tradesman) for up to three months.

Three months without wages with a family to support, probably a house or car to pay off, would put a great strain on a player, and it may take years to recover financially.

Last season several clubs took advantage of Sallabank Insurance's "Player's Personal Accident Scheme".

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The attitude it won't happen to me, is good and fine until bad luck strikes — then another player will learn the hard way.

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APIA president Nick Papallo

SUBURBS' \$60,000 SELL-OUT

The Western Suburbs-APIA soccer partnership has broken up before the joint team even played a match.

Western Suburbs announced it had withdrawn from soccer to concentrate on its social club in Sydney, leaving APIA to go it alone in the Philips league.

APIA bought 10 of Western Suburbs' players for a total of about \$70,000.

They are Rod Skellern, Warren Turnbull, Andy Scott, Mark Samuels, John Vernon, Brian O'Donnell, Socceroos Peter Wilson and Peter Stone and Australian under 19 representatives Greg Woodhouse and Ian Rowden.

So Western Suburbs withdrawal from the partnership came as a shock to the Philips League.

The club's manager, Mr Bob Weymouth, said: "Our committee felt there was a need to concentrate our efforts on the social aspects of the club, so we decided not to participate in senior soccer in the immediate future."

"We will however, continue to develop and sponsor junior soccer."

APIA president, Mr Nick Papallo said the club was expecting four players to arrive soon from England and that a club official had been sent to Europe to try to sign up a big-name player from Italy.

Chance for under 19s

From page one

lemlida, Davidson, Treddnick (McClendon); Hall (Hunter), Krncevic (Raskopoulos), Tombidis (Jennings).

AUSTRALIA 6 (Treddnick 2, Jennings 2, Krncevic, Selemidis) HERTHA 03 ZEHLENDORF 1. in Wollongong.

Australia: Woodhouse; Moulla, Christopoulos, Rowden, Milovanovic; Selemidis, Davidson, Treddnick; Hall, Krncevic, Jennings (McClendon, sub. Hogg).

AUSTRALIA 2 (Krncevic 2 incl. pen.) HERTHA 03 ZEHLENDORF 1 in Sydney.

Australia: Woodhouse; Moulla (Hogg), Christopoulos, Rowden, Milovanovic; Davidson, Selemidis (Raskopoulos), Treddnick; Hunter, Krncevic, Jennings.

Australia's results in the first qualifying tournament in New Zealand last November.

AUSTRALIA 3 Jennings 2, Treddnick 2, Krncevic 2, Raskopoulos, Moulla, Christopoulos) PAPUA NEW GUINEA 0.

Australia: Woodhouse; Hogg (Moulla), Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic; Selemidis, Davidson, Treddnick; Jennings, Raskopoulos.

AUSTRALIA 5 (Krncevic 3 incl. pen., Hunter, Treddnick) FIJI 1.

Australia: Woodhouse; Moulla, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic; Selemidis, Davidson, Treddnick; Hall (Hunter), Krncevic, Jennings. Best players: Christopoulos, Krncevic, Hunter.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Selemidis, Krncevic, NEW ZEALAND 1.

Australia: Woodhouse, Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Spanos; Selemidis, Davidson (went off 30th min), Raskopoulos (Milovanovic); Hunter, Krncevic, Treddnick (Tombidis). Best players: Selemidis, Woodhouse, Treddnick.

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DELLA PICCA HAS TOP CREDENTIALS

Rudolfo Della Picca from Argentina and globetrotter Stefan Matic from Yugoslavia appear to be the best of the many new players signed by St George.

Together with regulars Doug Utjesenovic, George Harris, Brendan Grosse and Phil Connor these two will spearhead a determined bid by St George for the 1979 Philips League championship.

The Saints fans who come along to watch their team surge to the top will do so in comfort, as a modern, covered grandstand is nearing completion.

This will bring Saints' spending at Barton Park to close to the \$1 million mark.

Della Picca, 26, is a central defender from Argentinian First Division club Deportivo Italiano. He was reported to be the best in a pre-World Cup warm up game that the Italian national team played against Deportivo.

Matic, 28, a midfielder, was recommended to Saints by their former coach Frank Arok, now



Les Boddacs

a top coach in Yugoslavia. Matic played in Yugoslavia for Novi Sad and went from there to West Germany. He played in Holland for Sparta Rotterdam and in Bolivia for champion team Bolivar.

Other players signed by St George are:

• **Michael Fraser**, 22, goalkeeper from APIA, who trained in West Germany last year and who is in the Australian squad to play against Wisla Krakow in Sydney.

• **Peter Katholas**, 18, a

member of the Australian Schoolboy team that toured North America last year. A midfielder, he has been signed from Sydney Olympic.

• **Nigel Groome**, 22, winger or midfielder, played 90 reserve games for Everton in England, and four or five senior matches.

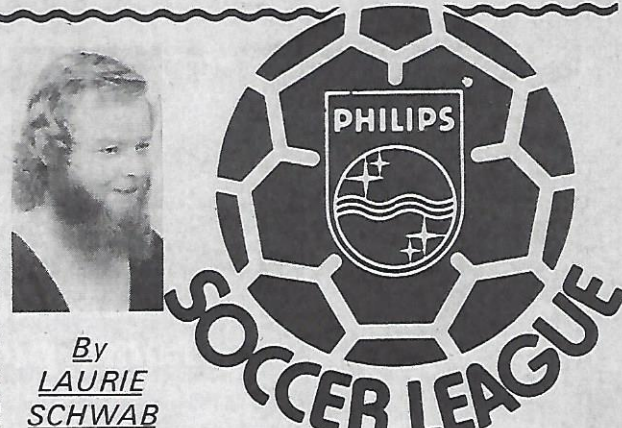
• **Roy Cotton**, 22, striker who played in England for Brentford, Orient and then for Aldershot, very impressive in recent games.

• **Dennis Duarte**, 22, talented Portuguese forward signed from Sydney amateur club Maderia after turning up one day at St George's training camp. Scored in his first Ampol Cup game against Manly.

Second Grade players who have been given contracts are: **Mark Barton**, **Mick Townsend**, **Mike O'Shea** and **Mick Dale**.

There are now 24 players in the senior squad but they will be reduced first to 18 and finally to 16.

Only two have so far been transferred — **Harry Williams** to Canberra City for \$6000 and



By
LAURIE SCHWAB

Harry Williams joins Canberra

Harry Williams and Steve Hoszowski are the star recruits at Canberra City, whose fans are confident that these two will compensate for the departure of Tony Henderson.

Henderson, one of the finest centre backs or midfielders in Australia, was sold to Macclesfield for \$14,000 during the off season.

Of this money, \$6000 was paid to St George for Williams and \$8000 to Auburn for Hoszowski.

Williams, who moved to Canberra from Sydney in his job with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, has been capped 17 times for Australia and played in the 1975-74 and 1977 World Cup campaigns.

Williams will play in either his usual left back position or perhaps in midfield, to allow **Mike Milovanovic** to hold his place at left back.

Hoszowski, who last year threatened legal action against Auburn to have his transfer fee reduced, was going to join South Melbourne Hellas.

However, after failing to get a job as a schoolteacher in Melbourne, Hoszowski joined Canberra instead and South Melbourne signed **Peter Launeta** from Preston Macedonia.

Williams has been out of action for more than a year due to a knee injury but seems to have recovered fully.

Other players signed by Canberra are:



Harry Williams

• **Isaac Farrar**, 21, from Motherwell, an attacking midfielder recommended by **Peter Marinello** who guested with Canberra last year.

• **Mike Smith**, 24, sweeper from Stoke City's Central

League team, signed as the replacement for Tony Henderson.

• **George Bailey**, 22, former Manchester United apprentice who toured Australia with the England Schoolboys a few years ago. Had a spell with Albion Rovers in Scotland and should prove a big hit in the Philips League.

Canberra is also negotiating with two Irish players from Sligo Rovers — a defender and an attacking midfielder.

All the 1978 players except Henderson and goalkeeper **Ron Tilson** who is on the transfer list, have been retained by Canberra.

Young players expected to make a mark in senior ranks this year are forward **Bernard Lusica**, midfielder **Joe Aquero** and forward **Phil Riess** who previously played for the Hong Kong representative youth team.

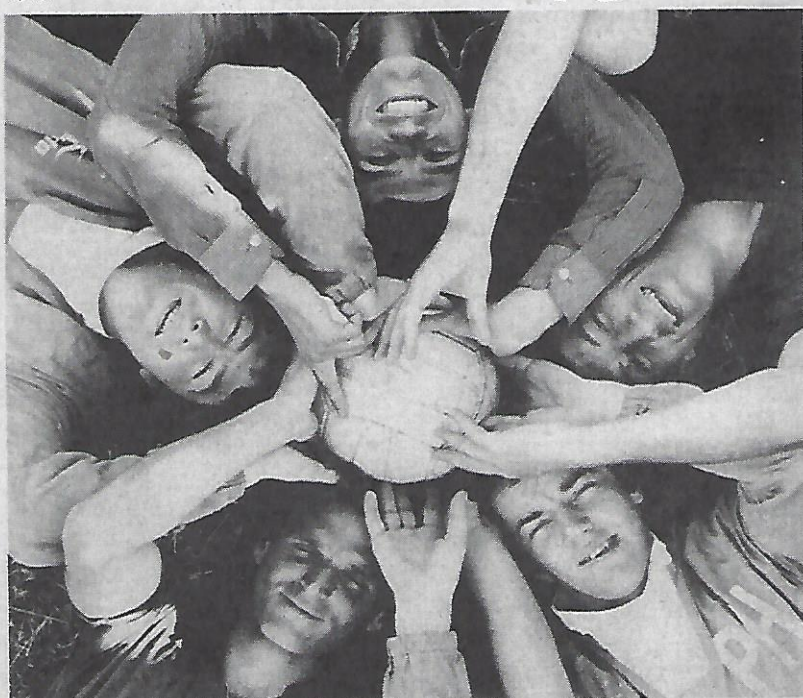
David Lindenmayer, reserve goalkeeper, will return home soon from Holland where he has been training with PSV Eindhoven to gain experience and improve his game.

Charles Perkins remains president of Canberra City. **Theo Moulis** and **Steve Doszpot** are the two presidents and **Max Talbot**, one of the founders of Newcastle KB United, is the new secretary.

Zoran Djuricic to Avala for \$2500. Williams sought a transfer because he now lives in Canberra.

New coach **Josef Gela**, the former Hungarian international goalkeeper, has impressed everyone at the club with his professional approach in pre-season preparation.

Les Boddacs, Saints general manager in charge of soccer, said this week: "We are confident of doing well in the championship after the few lean years we have experienced. We have the playing talent now and under Gela the team is shaping up well."



Five of Footscray J.U.S.T.'s new players, clockwise from top: Zoran Todorovic, Slobodan Jovicic, Paul Hyne, Radoslav Jovanovic, Steve Carpenter.

Yugoslav Beckenbauer

Ken Drakeford and **Slobodan Jovicic** will be the new Victorian stars in the Philips League this year, judging from form in early practice games.

Drakeford, 21, a midfielder who darts about the field as tirelessly as **Jimmy Rooney**, comes from Bromsford in the First Division of the Southern Premier League.

He was on trial with Wolverhampton Wanderers when he was spotted and signed by South Melbourne coach **Dave Maclaren** who was in England on a recruiting mission.

Drakeford had a great game against Olympiakos late last year and was again impressive in a practice game against Preston Macedonia two weeks ago.

Jovicic is one of seven Footscray J.U.S.T. recruits from overseas.

In a recent practice game against Fitzroy Alexander Jovicic showed himself to be a cool, stylish and highly-skilful sweeper in the Beckenbauer mould.

He has remarkable passing ability and is accurate over long distances with any part of his foot.

Jovicic, 27, served his apprenticeship with OFK Belgrade and later played in a Belgrade local league.

Another J.U.S.T. recruit who impressed in **Radoslav Jovanovic**, 25, a skilful and deceptive attacker with the ability to beat his man and go for goal. He was injured early in the match against Fitzroy, so we did not really see enough of him.

But the best of the Footscray



Ken Drakeford

forwards — and apart from **Branko Buljivic**, the best forward of the game — was **Joe Palinkas** after he came on at half time.

Palinkas showed dash and enthusiasm left his opponents stranded and was unlucky not to score a goal or at least set one up. The other Footscray recruits are:

• **Milutin Ciric**, 22, goalkeeper who played for Vojvodina Juniors and for Red Star Novi Sad.

• **Zoran Todorovic**, 26, midfielder, former OFK apprentice who played in the Belgrade local league with Jovicic.

• **Steve Carpenter**, 21, mid-

fielder, who has been with Portsmouth, Norwich City, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Bristol Rovers.

Paul Hyne, 20, English right-back who served part of his apprenticeship with German second division club Breitenburg.

Todorovic and **Carpenter** showed good form last Wednesday when J.U.S.T. beat Port Melbourne 8-1 in a practice match. **Palinkas** was outstanding once again.

J.U.S.T.'s goalscorers in this match were Jovanovic 2, Todorovic 2, Palinkas, Rujinkas, Rujovic, Nicolaidis and Carpenter.

Jimmy Rooney was as good as over in the practice match against Footscray.

Bought for \$10,000 from Marconi, he still looks good enough to play for Australia — in fact he has few peers among midfielders in this country.

Mark Karapatsos, who has rejoined Fitzroy from Western Suburbs (Vic) had a sound game at centre back but **Jim Sahindis**, and 21-year-old recruit from Collingwood City, seemed over-awed by playing his first game in Philips League company.

The same applies to **George Pavlidis**, who was promoted from the Second Division team for this practice game.

Steve Potter, the 22-year-old goalkeeper from Swansea, had not arrived in time to play for Footscray in this match. Potter has also played at Manchester City and Oxford.

Similarly **George Gillan** had not returned from Scotland in time to play for Fitzroy.



Joe Palinkas



Jimmy Rooney

Watch out for Heys!

Graham Heys will be better than **Ken Bodon**. That's the confident prediction of Newcastle KB United coach **Alan Vest**.

Heys, 22, a winger, played 300 games for Macclesfield Town in the English Northern Premier League and has more recently been with Altrincham.

A former English youth international, he has scored 55 goals in the past four seasons — an average of about 13 a year.

Bodon was, of course, judged Australian player of the year for 1978 and was equal top scorer in the Philips League.

Another import from whom Vest expects big things is **Ian Seddon**, 27, a midfielder who has joined Newcastle from Wigan Athletic in the English Fourth Division.

He was with Cambridge United last year. Before that he played 73 games with Chester and 64 games with Bolton Wanderers and has also been with Chesterfield and Stockport County on loan.

David Jones, 24, a left



Newcastle coach Alan Vest

sided player who was with Victorian State League club Ringwood Wilhelmia a few years ago, makes his second visit to Australia, this time to join Newcastle. He has notched 150 goals for Macclesfield Town and eight youth internationals for England.

Other Newcastle recruits:

• **Malcolm McClelland**, one of the Australian under 19 players in New Zealand late last year, signed from Adamstown Robbers.

• **Jim McBrean**, 25, mid-

fielder of striker and one of the prime movers in Edgeworth's Northern NSW grand final win last year, has scored about 40

goals over the past two seasons.

In addition, central defender **Mike Boogaard**, a member of Newcastle's youth squad last year, has been promoted to the senior squad. Boogaard, who went with the Australian Schoolboys to North America last year, is in the Australian under 19 squad which is now in South America.

The only Newcastle player not re-signed is **Bill Anney** who has been put on the transfer list.

Newcastle's new president is **Harley Dixon**, who replaces **Max Talbot** who is now secretary-manager of Canberra City. **Richard Buxty** has replaced **George Sanders** as treasurer.

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Chicken out, wine in

By Bruce Waddell

Brisbane Lions and Brisbane City are planning for their 1979 Philips League campaigns in styles completely opposite to the southern clubs - by almost completely turning their backs on imports.

Brisbane Lions, who finished a creditable sixth place in the championship last year - equal on points with Fitzroy - have announced they will be signing no imports at all!

The only losses to date are mid-fielder John Neale, and winger Geoff Morris, who have returned to England, and defender, George Potter, who has transferred to Brisbane City.

This means the well established players retained are Nigel Lownds, Jim Hermiston, Col Bennett, Alan Niven, Roddy McKenzie, Eddie Spearritt, Barrie Fairbrother, Paul Ontong, and Alan Hughes.

Further contracts for Steve Amos and Paul Lazzlo are still under negotiation but both will probably stay with the club.

Other squad members are Graham Wilson and Johnny Ogden, two youngsters who made several appearances last year and who should have matured and Ian Lawrie, who is back after a spell with State League club Ipswich United.

Any further additions will come from several local first division players, who are trialling with the club and who have always been regarded as worth a try in the PSL.

The club's new leader this year is midfielder Spearritt, who will be player-coach, assisted by Hermiston and McKenzie.

Spearritt had a long career in English professional football with Ipswich Town, Carlisle and Brighton and is extremely popular among the players.

He replaces last year's coach

Gyula Vincze, who took over after only one 1978 match following the sudden resignation of Brian Daykin.

Lions have failed in their concerted bid to play home matches this year at Suburban Richlands and will remain at Perry Park.

Club secretary Simon Boegheim, mindful of the long list of imports being signed by southern clubs, is confident Lions' austerity policy can work.

"We have been caught out many times in the past with poor quality imports - so have many other clubs for that matter - and we feel there is sufficient talent here to improve on last year's performances."

Brisbane City remain an enigma in the PSL. After finishing a poor last in the championship last season, they eventually went on to capture their second successive Philips Cup.

Back at the helm for yet another term is the club's faithful servant, Nereo Sattich, who says the club is aiming for only two imports, apart of course from Potter.

The name of only one has been released at this stage. He is a left winger, Kevin Lowe, who is currently playing for Sterling Albion in Scotland after having previously been on the books of Hamilton and East Fife.

Lowe has been recommended to the club by former City fullback Tom McLeod, who returned to Scotland early last year for family reasons.

A local player on trial is mid-fielder, Charlie Runje from the Sunnyside United club. Runje last year won selection in the Queensland State side.

City are hoping some of their goalscoring problems may be solved by a 21-year-old 6 ft 2in

striker, David Moore, who played in State under-16 and under-17 teams.

Since then Moore has been in England where he trialled with Everton and played for Trammere Rovers before his latest stint with a southern league team. Sattich hopes he may be another Kenny Boder.

City are also trialling a few local players, including last year's under-19 goalkeeper Tony Scanlan, from the Annerley club, who deserves his chance in the PSL. He would also be a good backstop for current keeper Kim Wishart.

Sattich has had permission from Canberra City to approach mid-fielder Stephen Hogg, who is in South America with the junior Socceroos. He is expected to come to Brisbane on his return.

The only players from last season's squad on the transfer list are ball-playing winger Willie Conner and striker Craig Wallace.

Sattich then can look forward to a solid defensive squad at least, with Potter to link up with Ian Rathmell, Steve Perry, Peter Tokesi, David Ratcliffe and John Iavello.

Other players retained are John Coyne, Roberto Echeverria, Larry Gaffney, Brian Kibbey, Mark Brusasco, Kevin Caldwell, Barry Kelso and Ian Johnston.

City in the past have always produced their best under the leadership of Sattich, who is confident the results of late last year can be maintained.

Unlike Brisbane Lions, who have lost last year's sponsor, Kentucky Fried Chicken, City have picked up a new one in the form of Montrose Wines, who have provided a reported \$100,000 over the next three years.

Johnny Warren

Rival clubs had better watch out, Hakoah - oooops, beg your pardon, Sydney City - means business again this year.

The outfit described by Soccer Action late last year as "the Real Madrid of Australian soccer" and the most successful club since the Philips League's establishment two seasons ago, is now looking for success off, as well as on the field of play.

This is the only conclusion that can be drawn from the appointment of JOHN WARREN as Sydney City's full-time public relations and promotional manager.

During the past two years Warren, the former Australian skipper, the only soccer player in this country to be decorated by the Queen and a highly successful coach with St George in Sydney, put the game on the map in the national capital as manager-coach of Canberra City.

In several respects City blazed a new trail for others to follow, especially in the building of a club spirit and identity among its followers.

It is his talent in this field that Sydney City is looking to in 1979 and in the years to come. During the PSL's first two years Hakoah drew some of the biggest crowds in other states, where fans flocked to see their high quality football, but now the time has come for something to be done about filling the terraces at Wentworth Park.

Johnny Warren has to find the remedy.

His engagement by the club is the guarantee that changing the name to Sydney City will be more than just a token gesture to xenophobia.

Rather, it is to be a serious attempt to gain identification and, hopefully, cooperation with the leadership, administration and business houses of the Harbor City.

Warren has identified five main areas for his activities: sponsorship, media relations, junior promotions, awakening dormant enthusiasm among the thousands of Hakoah club members and match day activities at Wentworth Park.

The new Sydney City image, complete with the city's coat of arms on the shirts of the players, will be launched at a Lord Mayor's reception in March.

ALDERMAN NELSON MEERS has followed in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor, the late LEO PORT, by deciding to be the club's patron.

Specific aim is to restore soccer's image as family entertainment in Sydney something which was done with great success in Canberra.

Each Sydney City home match this year promises to be several hours of entertainment, enough to keep young and old happy and asking for more, even if the occasional soccer match turns out to be a "bummer".

Warren has some novel ideas up his sleeve, mainly picked up during his recent study tour of the US where he took a close look at professional sports promotion.

Understandably, he is playing his cards close to the chest: no free hints for rival clubs!

In all the excitement over Warren's appointment, what is after all is said and done, the most indispensable part of a soccer club - its team - hasn't been forgotten either.

And in its usual manner, the club is out to give PSL hopefuls shocks and nightmares galore in '79.

The 1978 Australian Coach of the Year GERRY CHALDI, has been working his charges into shape and scanning the skies for planes about to deliver some new recruits into his eager clutches.

They include a trio of young Brazilians signed during his off season tour of Europe and South America.

All 21-year-olds, they are MARCOS SILVA, MOZART DE FOSECA and CORNELIO BORGES.

They are making the trip under the guidance of Hilton Silva, returning from a holiday in his homeland.

The three young men, one of whom is a bank clerk and another a university student, were chosen from regional league clubs in the suburbs of Rio, after Sydney City was priced out of the race for some better established players.

An old favorite of Sydney soccer fans, Joe Fletcher, will also return to Sydney City colors, rejoining his old club after several years in Britain.

However, the acquisition of new players does not mean Chaldi is dissatisfied with last year's brilliant squad - quite the contrary.

Warren to push new City image

By PETER SCOTT

"The new players will have a heck of a fight on their hands getting into the team," he said.

"I am completely satisfied with the players ready at my disposal, that is why all of last year's stalwarts have been retained by the club.

The only man sidelined is Henry Mowbray.

The Hakoah skipper underwent a routine knee operation late last year but developed serious complications when infection set in and he will not resume training for at least two months.

However, if need be, Mowbray's position will be filled by

an as yet unnamed defender who was on the books of Dundee in Scotland.

In its first and only trial match prior to the Ampol Cup debut against Toongabbie, Sydney City beat Sutherland Shire, the 1978 NSW Federation champions, 3-0, with goals by Terry Smith, Mark Trenter and Ian Sousses.

Socceroo goalie Todd Clarke has a pulled muscle, while defender Steve O'Connor is still nursing a leg injury sustained against Olympiakos in December.

Sydney City has a long way to go until it reaches its peak, and it may well come only after the Ampol Cup.

Frankly, the club would have preferred not to have to take part in a competition which takes place at a time of year more suited to surfing than soccer, but sport politics dictated the necessity of participation.

In the meantime, Chaldi is preparing a team for the championship, while Warren is seeking media exposure, larger attendances and a definite identity for Sydney City.

Both experts in soccer, they have clearly defined each other's responsibilities to avoid any possibility of conflict or misunderstanding - Chaldi is boss on the football side, Warren in charge of PR.



● Mozart Xavier da Fonseca — defender



● Marcos Venicio de Assuncao Silva — midfielder



● Cornelio Machado Borges — utility player



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VICTORIAN AMPOL CUP



(Above) George Cross winger Jim Paparas (left) takes on Croatia's John Gardiner. The teams are opposed in the opening round of the 1979 Ampol Cup. George Cross has to overcome a hoodoo to gain victory against Croatia.

(Left) Croatia captain Alan Kerr holds aloft the State League Cup. Will Croatia, the Ampol Cup holder, retain the trophy?

Silver anniversary for Ampol Cup

The Ampol Cup night soccer competition celebrates its silver anniversary in Victoria this season.

Originally known as the Summer Cup, before Ampol Petroleum Ltd. stepped in as a sponsor, the night series is the most popular cup competition in the State.

Since 1955, the Ampol Cup has kicked off the season in Victoria. New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland also feature the Ampol series as their first major competition.

Ampol also sponsors soccer in Tasmania, making the company the longest-serving supporter of Australian soccer.

In Victoria, the night series has always been a prestigious event, unlike the Dookery Cup, the century-old F.A. Cup-style competition, which has lost a lot of shine over the past decade.

The format of playing top State League teams at night under lights has always appealed to soccer fans, hungry for action after the close season.

Early Ampol Cup competitions were played at the Showgrounds and the South Melbourne Football ground.

Later Olympic Park was adopted as the sole venue for the games, a situation which remained until February 12, 1978.

On that day, a Sunday, Albion Rovers and Sunshine City played the first daytime AMPOL Cup fixture.

Played at Alton as Kim Reserve, the match was a typical Ampol Cup affair.

The match finished a 2-2 draw after extra time, and penalties were needed to separate the teams.

Sunshine, the more experienced of the two teams, ran out 4-1 winners of the penalty showdown.

The second leg of the double header saw the home team, Altona City, triumph 1-0 over Prahran Slavia.

And so a tradition was broken. Ampol Cup soccer had seen the light of day.

The Victorian Soccer Federation believes soccer will benefit by Ampol Cup fixtures being played at outer suburban grounds, instead of being centralised at Olympic Park, which is five minutes from the heart of Melbourne.

This season, 20 of the scheduled 33 Ampol Cup games will be played during the day.

Ten group matches and the two semi-finals will be played under lights at Olympic Park on Friday nights, with the final only game played on a Saturday night (March 24).

Suburban venues are Croynod Park (Croynod), Green Gully Reserve (St. Albans), Kim Reserve (Altona), B.T. Connor Reserve (Preston), Middle Park (South Melbourne), Anderson Road (Sunshine) and McLennan Drive (Frankston).

The 25th Ampol Cup winner will be able to take extra satisfaction from its win. To be silver anniversary champions is an honor.

Footscray J.U.S.T. dominated the Ampol Cup in the beginning. The club won three consecutive cups from 1955-57.

J.U.S.T. had some great names in that Ampol Cup hat trick era.

ALEX BEATTIE, an Englishman with phenomenal goalkeeping record, spearheaded the Footscray attack, backed up by Vero Mladenovic, Ivan Pickl and Billy Rice.

Peter Stubbs, German, Ivan Savelin, Pepe Cubero and Steve Zachemarak were also star players.

Until this day that great Footscray combination is the only team to win the trophy three times in a row.

In the early 60s, Polonia emerged with a line up which rivalled the Footscray J.U.S.T. team of the middle 50s.

Polonia took out the Ampol Cup from 1963, and repeated the feat in 1964.

The Polonia line up included Putkowski, the goalkeeper; Vio Janczyk, Gross, Dudon, Janowski, Jurecki (an Australian international), Zientara (a Polish international) and Lolly Vella (an Australian international).

South Melbourne Hellas did a double in 1969 and 1970, taking out the Ampol Cup in successive years.

But the 1970 final, which needed a replay to find a winner, was full of controversy for the Greek club.

The first match, against Footscray, ended in a 1-1 draw after extra time.

The replay was the following Friday night.

During the game, South Melbourne coach Lou Brodie, who later was national coach of Kuwait, decided to replace Boullis Kamboropoulos, a favorite with the fans.

After being replaced by a youthful Ulysses Kokkinos, Kamboropoulos removed his shirt and boots and threw them on the pitch.

He stormed off in a rage hurling abuse at his coach.

South Melbourne supporters, outraged at the removal of their hero, pelted the Hellas bench with objects and strong abuse.

One Hellas fan punched Brodie.

The game continued, tied at 2-2 after goals from Dave Gerrie, Ernie Ackerley (South Melbourne), Cedo Clarkovic and Tommy Stankovic (Footscray).

Three minutes from the end of extra time, Jim Armstrong grabbed a winner for Hellas.

But the victory didn't make Brodie forget the Kamboropoulos incident.

After the match he said: "I made the substitution because the speed of Kokkinos and Gerrie would have given us the edge. I don't judge on nationality when making a change."

"It is up to the V.S.F. to educate fans. Sport is about discipline and building character, and fans have to learn this and not behave like they did tonight."

But the incident didn't end there. The club wanted Kamboropoulos it would take action against him.

However, the player was given only a token suspension, and Brodie, a coach who sticks to his guns, promptly resigned.

Thus South Melbourne won the Ampol Cup, but lost a coach!

The 1971 final was just as sensational, although it was the on-field action which dominated this time!



Boulis Kamboropoulos, whose substitution in the 1970 Ampol Cup final brought wild scenes.

But Croatia put the matter beyond doubt with a crushing display to win 5-1.

Goalscorers from Croatia were Billy Vojtek (2), Jimmy Mackay (2) and Ivan Turic.

Mick replied for Footscray.

The following year, Footscray was given a chance of revenge, but wasn't up to it. In the final, Croatia emerged victors 2-1.

Billy McIntyre and Ibro Hadzic scored for Croatia, and Tommy Stankovic netted for Footscray.

The successive losses hurt Footscray, particularly as the two clubs had a great rivalry.

The 1973 cup final brought together two unfancied sides - Melbourne and Ringwood City.

The final was a thriller and a credit to the teams.

Ian McCarthy put Melbourne in the lead, but goals from Rudi Muesse and Gary Cole put Ringwood in front.

Gordon Bentley equalised for Melbourne, and then a goal by Steve Bleskany gave the Hungarian team the cup in extra time.

Ringwood boasted Peter Orlerton, Mike Pye, Dick Ward and Bobby McGinn in that 1973 side.

Melbourne, the cup holder, did a good job defending its trophy the following season. The club reached the final against George Cross.

The first final saw the teams locked at 0-0 for 120 minutes of soccer. The game was a battle, but frayed tempers resulted in three players - Steve Bleskany and Joe Palinkas (Melbourne) and Alex McConville (George Cross) - being sent off.

The three players were suspended and missed the final replay the following week.

George Cross, which wasn't hit as hard by the suspensions as Melbourne, won the game 2-1 with goals from Kevin Kelly and Paul Deomling.

GEORGE CROSS IS TO BEAT CROATIA A JINX

By KYLE PATTERSON

George Cross will be out to smash a hoodoo and erase bitter memories when it takes on Ampol Cup holder Essendon Croatia in the opening round of the series this Friday night at Olympic Park.

The Cross, which copied five successive defeats at the hands of rival Croatia last season, must come out on top in the first round clash or spend another year in the shadows of the State League champion, its jinx team.

But more importantly, the individuals at George who believe Croatia stole the State League Cup from them last season must stand up and fight, and prove they are better than Essendon.

The game, the second on a double-decker bill, and the clash between Preston and Hakoah St. Kilda should ensure a crowd of 5,000 at Olympic Park.

Essendon Croatia, Preston, George Cross and Hakoah filled the top four placings in the State League last season. It's ironic the teams that wound the season up with the State League Cup series should kick it off again in the Ampol Cup.

Preston and Hakoah, like George Cross, have something to prove on Friday.

Hakoah, which just scraped into the top four last season and then performed badly in the State League Cup, must prove it isn't a bunch of pretenders.

Preston, despite huge financial outlays for players last season, failed to win an honor, and finished the season playing like a bunch of rank amateurs.

Preston's large band of followers is waiting for its team to produce something on the field.

Essendon and George Cross are in section 'A' along with Slavia, Frankston City, Green Gully and Albion Leyland.

Section 'B' is Preston, Hakoah, Sunshine City, Juventus, Altona City and Croynod City.

On paper, Section 'A' is the strongest group. Essendon Croatia v George Cross, Olympic Park, Friday night.

George Cross without striking duo Ken Reed and Robert Cullen is like a bee without a sting.

Cullen definitely will not play, and Reed is also very doubtful, leaving coach John Sanchez with a headache.

Without Cullen, the George forward line is like a smile with two front teeth missing.

But to say George Cross hasn't a chance without the two strikers would be an insult to the rest of the George Cross team.

The Cross has many excellent, capable players Robert Mirak, Billy Wilkinson, John Webb, Jim Paparas, Norm Melind and a considerable back.

Make no mistake George Cross has the grit, even though it may lack gloss for this game.

Essendon Croatia, on the other hand, will probably field a team very similar to the one which performed so well last season.

Victorian soccer's outlaw Alan Kerr - is back in town and mean as ever. Ken Murphy, Carl Gilder, Tommy Cumming and Brian Dawson could cause havoc to any defence.

Essendon's problem is in defence. John Gardiner may not play in the opening Ampol Cup game leaving a gap.

But when big Steve Kokoska is around, the gap isn't as easy to exploit.

Should Croatia perform near its peak, we could see George Cross spending most of the night defending, hoping that sharp counter attacks to produce goals.

But if Croatia isn't as together as it was at the same time last year, the game will be an even affair.

George Cross has a great ability to defend for long periods of time. The play of playing three centre halves - Webb, Matland and Castellan - is most effective.

Croatia on the other hand, is uncomfortable being pinned down, and prefers to attack.

As in past George Cross/Croatia games, the pace will be fast, furious in the opening, and will never get slow.

'SOCCER ACTION' VERDICT - One goal victory to Croatia.

And when he decides to attack, Preston looks dangerous.

If Bernard fires and winger Jeff Faulkner and centre George McMillan can combine with him, Preston will score goals.

The only problem is the team's defence, which is yet to be settled, and will be worried by Hakoah's Mike Clarey, Graham French and Les Nagy.

Hakoah has a similar problem to Preston. The side's forward line is well-balanced, but the defence, which will be without experienced sweeper, David Baker, looks vulnerable.

The outcome of the game will be decided by which team's forward line fires best.

Hakoah likes to build up slowly, giving time to get midfielders into forward positions. It isn't uncommon to see forwards Clarey and French well inside their own half to help construct a move.

Preston, however, bursts out of the midfield with direct attacks, utilising the speed of forwards Faulkner and McMillan. But the Preston team couldn't be labelled as a counter-attacking side.

'SOCCER ACTION' VERDICT - A score draw with penalties to decide.

1978 RESULTS Preston 1 Hakoah 4 S.L.C. Preston 2 Hakoah 2 L.C. Preston 3 Hakoah 0 L.C.

SLAVIA v FRANKSTON CITY. Croynod Park, Saturday 1.00 p.m.

A shocking run of injuries and an ineptable draw in the final round of the State League championship against Frankston cost Slavia a place in the top four.

But Slavia has many top class players with the best credentials in the league. Most have had professional experience, and 1979 could see Slavia emerge as a force.

Midfielder/defender Steve Short plays consistently well, and will back Jim Train is a 100 per cent man.

Striker Jim Paton sometimes gets only a handful of touches of the ball in a game, but could come off the field with a hat-trick!

Against Frankston, re-structured under new coach Freddy Bunce, Slavia will have the edge.

The Baysiders have lost central defensive pair Sandy Irvine and Eric Gillis, which leaves a considerable gap.

Alby Brown, Noel Mitten and Willie Coulson, are all top players, but need time to settle in with their new club.

'SOCCER ACTION' VERDICT - Two goal win to Slavia.

1978 RESULTS - Slavia 1 Frankston City 0 L.C. Slavia 0 Frankston 0 L.C.

Friday February 2 at Olympic Park. 1st game Macedonia v Hakoah, 2nd game Croatia v George Cross.

Saturday February 3 at Croynod City's Ground: 1st game Slavia v Frankston, 2nd game Altona v Croynod.

Sunday 4th February 1979 at Green Gully's Ground: 1st game Sunshine v Juventus, 2nd game Green Gully v Albion Leyland.

Weekend February 10/11 Reserved for International Game

2nd ROUND

Friday February 16 at Olympic Park: 1st game Croatia v Slavia, 2nd game George Cross v Green Gully.

Saturday February 17 at Altona City's Ground: 1st game Frankston v Albion Leyland, 2nd game Hakoah v Altona.

Sunday February 18 at Macedonia's Ground: 1st game Juventus v Croynod, 2nd game Macedonia v Sunshine.

ALTONA CITY v CROYDON CITY. Croynod Park, Saturday 2.45 pm.

The people of Croynod might be rubbing their hands together at drawing Altona City first up. But despite Altona finishing 11th in 1978, Croynod will not be able to relax for a moment.

Altona has a hard working bunch of players, and their endeavour and work rate could nullify Croynod's 'definite class advantage'.

Pat Lowrey, Jon Tront, Charlie Murphy and Duncan Smith make up the strong Croynod midfield, but they will have to be more direct in State League company.

'SOCCER ACTION' VERDICT - A close one for sure, but Altona for victory.

1978 RESULTS - Croynod's first season in competition. SUNSHINE CITY v JUVENTUS. Green Gully Reserve, Sunday 1.00 p.m.

Both Sunshine and Juventus will have basically the same sets of players that represented the clubs on the field in 1978.

Juve's players will be a lot fitter than last season, thanks to the arrival of the new coach Tony Boggi.

Juve, however, will struggle to win matches until it signs a good centre forward, Jim Armstrong has retired, and Tony Cundio is more a winner than a goalscorer.

Peter Vaughan will strengthen the defence and fill the gap left by Steve Walker's retirement.

Juve's lack of fire power, and Sunshine's all round superiority should see it win.

'SOCCER ACTION' VERDICT - A clear Sunshine win.

1978 RESULTS: Juventus 2 Sunshine 0 L.C., Juventus 0 Sunshine 0 L.C.

GREEN GULLY v ALBION ROVERS. Green Gully Reserve, Sunday 2.45 pm.

Green Gully, featuring play-off coach Bill Vojtek, Steve Carr and Willie Vassallo, will have to match class for Albion Rovers.

Carr has impressed with his speed, and his combination with Vojtek could be the downfall of Albion.

'SOCCER ACTION' VERDICT - Green Gully win by two goals.

1978 RESULTS - Green Gully 4 Albion 0 L.C., Green Gully 1 Albion 3 L.C.

Legend I.C. League championship, S.L.C. State League Cup, A.C. Ampol Cup.

Fixtures, venues

GROUP A - Essendon Croatia, George Cross, Slavia, Frankston City, Green Gully, Albion Leyland.

GROUP B - Preston Macedonia, Hakoah, Sunshine City, Juventus, Altona City, Croynod City.

1st ROUND

Friday February 2 at Olympic Park: 1st game Macedonia v Hakoah, 2nd game Croatia v George Cross.

Saturday February 3 at Croynod City's Ground: 1st game Slavia v Frankston, 2nd game Altona v Croynod.

Sunday 4th February 1979 at Green Gully's Ground: 1st game Sunshine v Juventus, 2nd game Green Gully v Albion Leyland.

Weekend February 10/11 Reserved for International Game

2nd ROUND

Friday February 16 at Olympic Park: 1st game Croatia v Slavia, 2nd game George Cross v Green Gully.

Saturday February 17 at Altona City's Ground: 1st game Frankston v Albion Leyland, 2nd game Hakoah v Altona.

Sunday February 18 at Macedonia's Ground: 1st game Juventus v Croynod, 2nd game Macedonia v Sunshine.

3rd ROUND

Friday February 23 at Olympic Park: 1st game Macedonia v Altona, 2nd game Croatia v Green Gully.

Saturday February 24 at Middle Park: 1st game George Cross v Frankston, 2nd game Hakoah v Juventus.

Sunday February 25 at Sunshine City's Ground: 1st game Slavia v Albion Leyland, 2nd game Sunshine v Croynod.

4th ROUND

Friday March 2 at Olympic Park: 1st game Juventus v Altona, 2nd game Croatia v Albion Leyland.

Saturday March 3 at Frankston City's Ground: 1st game Hakoah v Sunshine, 2nd game Frankston v Green Gully.

Sunday March 4 at Preston Macedonia's Ground: 1st game George Cross v Slavia, 2nd game Macedonia v Croynod.

5th ROUND

Friday March 9 at Olympic Park: 1st game Croatia v Frankston, 2nd game Macedonia v Albion Leyland.

Saturday March 10 at Croynod City's Ground: 1st game Slavia v Green Gully, 2nd game Hakoah v Croynod.

Sunday March 11 at Altona City's Ground: 1st game Sunshine v Altona, 2nd game George Cross v Albion Leyland.

SEMI FINALS

Friday March 16 at Olympic Park: Winner of 'A' v Runner up 'B', Winner of 'B' v Runner up 'A'.

FINAL

Saturday March 24 at Olympic Park: (levelling kick-off) Winner of 1st semi final, v Winner of 2nd semi final.

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Mirosław Justek



Pope John Paul (right) with former Victorian State goalkeeper Steve Czavdema and Polonia secretary Tom Ostrowski during his Australian tour.

Pope was one of juniors

Wisla Krakow's most famous player is Pope John Paul II.

According to Australian Soccer Federation vice-president Mr. Michael Weinstein, who arranged Wisla's tour of Australia, Pope John Paul played for Wisla as a junior. He was a goalkeeper.

As Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, Archbishop of Krakow, the Pope visited many centres of Australia's 120,000-member Polish community during a tour in 1973.

Wisla, named after the main Polish river, was formed in 1906 and is one of Poland's oldest soccer clubs.

The club was formed by a group of students and the first chairman was a university professor Tadeusz Lopuszanski.

Wisla players have traditionally been well-educated young men — either university students or qualified professionals.

When the Polish national league was formed in 1927, Wisla was among three Crakow teams admitted to membership. The other two were Cracovia and Garbarnia but it was Wisla that won the championship that year.

Wisla's 1927 squad was: Pychowski, Kotlarczyk II, Ketz, Adamek, Czulak, Makowski, Kaczor, Krupa, Lukiewicz, Wojcik, Reyman I, Bajorek, Kotlarczyk I, Roman II, Skrynkiewicz.

The Kotlarczyk and Reyman brothers were often selected to the Polish national team.

Wisla's 1978 championship triumph was its first since 1951. It was achieved when Wisla drew 1-1 with Arka Gdynia on May 2, 1978.

Wisla was selected to tour Australia ahead of Ruch, Gornik LKS and Widzew, which were all knocking on the ASF's door.

WORLD CUP STARS GIVE WISLA BITE

By STEPHEN KALUS

Wisla Krakow, the 1978 champion of Poland, will prove to be one of the strongest club teams to visit Australia.

Not only does it feature seven Polish World Cup players, but one of them — Kaz Kmiecik — was the Polish league's top scorer for 1978, scoring 15 goals to beat Andrzej Szarmach who got 13 and Zbigniew Boniek who netted 11.

Kmiecik, born 19.9.1951, a university student, is Wisla's captain and has represented Poland 27 times. He was in Poland's 1974 World Cup squad. The other World Cup players in the Wisla team are:

Zdzislaw Kapka, a member of Poland's 1974 squad in West Germany. Born 7.12.1954, he is also a university student. A striker, he scored seven goals for Wisla in 1978, has played eight times for the Polish A team and 43 times for the national junior team.

Henryk Maculewicz: played right back in Poland's 1978 World Cup team in Argentina, but is listed as a midfielder in Wisla's squad. Born 24.4.1953, he works as an engineer, has represented Poland 20 times and has played 30 games in the national B team.

Adam Nawalka: played libero in Poland's 1978 World Cup team, alongside Jerry Gorgon, and was the best player on the ground in the opening match against West Germany. Born 12.10.1956, he has represented Poland 16 times.

Antoni Szymanowski: Poland's left back in Argentina, he played mainly right back in the 1974 World Cup finals and has been one of the finest defenders in Poland for more than five years.

Andrzej Iwan: made two appearances as a forward in the 1978 World Cup finals. Born 10.11.1959, he previously played for the Polish youth team 22 times. In 1978 he scored six goals in his 28 games for Wisla.

Mirosław Justek: was No. 14 in Poland's 1978 World Cup squad, while he was still with Lech Posen, the club from which he joined Wisla. However, he did not play in any of the World Cup games.

Other players who are in line for selection to the touring Wisla party:

Andrzej Targosz: Born 30.11.1957, student, a new-comer to Wisla's team, played five games and represented the Polish junior team 6 times. Targosz is one of the most intelligent players in the Wisla team.

Jan Jalocho: born 18.7.1957, regular left back in Wisla's team, represented four times the national youth team, played 43 games with Wisla.

Stan Gohet: Born 13.3.1949, physical instructor and Wisla's regular goalkeeper. Played 191 league games and together with Adamczyk shared the goal position in 1978 when Wisla won the premiership.

Lesou Lipka: Born 4.6.1957, midfielder, advanced to the league team from junior ranks, played 43 league games and represented the national junior team 8 times.

land, represented Polish juniors 14 times. This is his first year in Wisla's team.

Janusz Adamszyk: goalkeeper, born 13.9.1953, physical instructor, played 55 league games.

Zdzislaw Kapka: born 7.12.1954, university student, striker with 7 goals in 1978, played eight games in the Polish national team and 43 times in the national junior team.

Marek Motyka: Born 17.4.1958, student, one of the most talented youngsters in Po-

land, represented Polish juniors 14 times. This is his first year in Wisla's team.

Henryk Szymanowski: born 11.4.1952, office clerk, played 154 league games, played four times in the national reserve team.

Michael Wrobel: born 3.12.1957, student, midfielder, played six times in the national reserve team.

Kaz Gzda: born 14.1.1955, midfielder, student, played 86 league games.

Janusz Krupinski: born 27.8.1954, student, played 20 times in Wisla's team. He is known as one of Poland's fastest players.

Krzysztof Budka: born 2.9.1958, top centre back in Poland, represented Poland's national youth team 38 times. An injury prevented him from going to Argentina. Played 31 league games with Wisla.

Also: **Zbigniew Ptaszowski** (midfielder), **Leszek Pawlikowski**, **J. Plonka**, **J. Suro-wicz**, **A. Garley**, **K. Gacok**, **S. Krasny**.



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Wisla president Col Zbigniew Jablonski

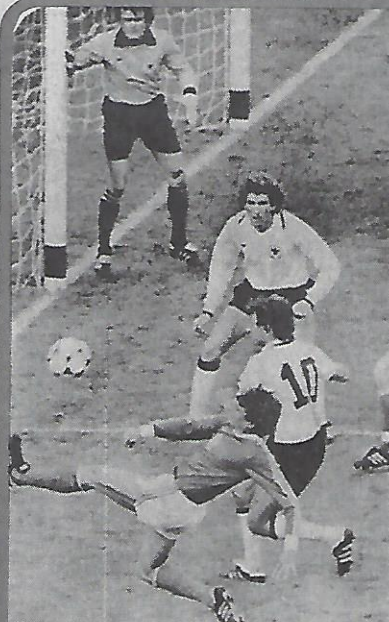


Wisla coach Orest Lenczyk

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Adam Nawalka of Wisla Krakow cuts the ball back for a team mate in the opening 1978 World Cup match between Poland and West Germany.

Goals king Kmiecik

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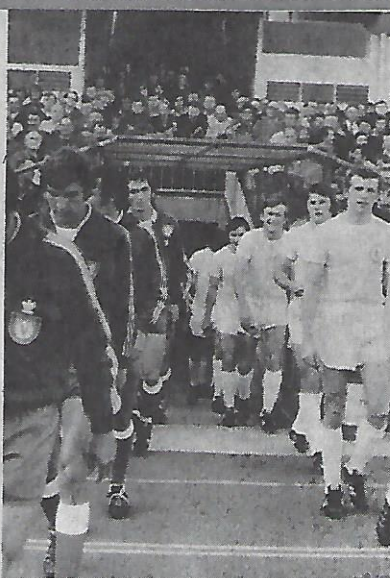
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Two scenes from the 1975 visit by Legia Warsaw: Victorian Soccer Federation president Theo Mar-

maras and chairman Michael Weinstein meeting the players and Victoria and Legia coming out of the players' race onto the pitch at Olympic Park.

S. Aust beat Legia

The first, Polish team to visit Australia was Legia Warsaw, which played two games against the Socceroos as part of its tour.

Details of those two games:

In Sydney, February 2, crowd 14,800.

AUSTRALIA 2
LEGIA 2

Australia: Maher, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Curran; Richards, Rooney, Mackay (Grosse 73rd); Campbell, Manuel (Micevski 66th), Buljevic.

Legia: Mowlik; Cmikiewicz; Topolski (Pieszko 57th), Tuminski (Kwapisz 70th), Cypka; Bialas, Deyna, Jagiello, Nowak, Krajewski, Dabrowski.

In Brisbane, February 5, crowd 8000:

AUSTRALIA 1
LEGIA 2

Australia: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Curran; Richards, Rooney (McGroarty 66th), Mackay; Campbell, Buljevic, Micevski.

Legia: Mowlik; Cmikiewicz; Jagiello, Tuminski, Cykal, Pieszko, Bialas, Deyna; Nowak, Kwapisz, Dabrowski.

On the same tour, Legia lost to South Australia and beat Victoria.

Scores:

SOUTH AUSTRALIA 2

LEGIA 1

Best for South Australia: Clarke, Kolecki, J. Nyskohus.

VICTORIA 1

LEGIA 4

Best players, Victoria: Vojtek, Buljevic, Gardiner; Legia: Dabrowski, Bialas, Tuminski.



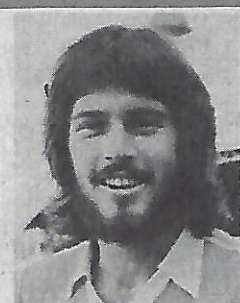
Jim Tansey springs past a Newcastle opponent



Tommy Cumming — best player in Victoria's win against Dundee last year.



Ian McGregor



Murray Barnes

The so

The Australian squads to

AUSTRALIAN X1 (in Sydney)

Clarke (Sydney City), Michael

Full backs: Kevin Mullen (Marconi), Keith Schumann (

Centre backs: Tony Hendr

Connor (Sydney City).

Midfielders: Joe Picioa

Murray Barnes, Ian Soun

O'Shea (St George), Mark Ja

Strikers: Peter Sharpe (N

paolo (Inter Monaro), Hilton

O'Connor (St George), Ken B

VICTORIA (in Melbourne):

Goalkeepers: Peter Laume

Banovic (Croatia).

Full backs: Steve Short (Sl

Centre backs: Steve Koko

doorn (Slavia), Chris Kalafati

Midfielders: Jimmy Roone

(Footscray J.U.S.T.), John Ga

(Croydon).

Strikers: Tommy Cumming

Paton (Slavia), Gary Cole (Fit

SOUTH AUSTRALIA (in A

Goalkeepers: Peter Marsh

Crook) (West Adelaide).

Full backs: Bugsy Nysko

Reynolds (West Adelaide), Vi

Centre backs: David Jones

Midfielders: Agenor Muni

Perin (Adelaide City), Neil

(West Adelaide), Henry Kole

Forwards: John Nyskohu

City), Ian MacGregor (West

QUEENSLAND (in Brisba

Nigel Lownds, Jim Hermi

Spearritt, Alan Niven, Ban

Lions), Steve Perry, Larry Ga

Barry Kelso, Kevin Caldwe

Dolan, John Wilkinson (Gran

swich Utd), Tony Scanlan (A

NEW ERA VICTOR

By Laurie

Victoria, which meets Wisla on February 10, has entered a new era of representative soccer under its coach Len McEndrey, who is also Victorian Director of Coaching.

Under McEndrey, the Victorian team will be part of the pipeline to the Australian team.

Only players who are naturalised, who intend to be naturalised and who are young enough for consideration by the time the next World Cup campaign starts, will be considered for selection.

In addition, McEndrey will use star players who have done coaching courses and who can therefore contribute to the preparation of the other players.

This explains the presence of John Gardiner. The Croatia star has just completed the senior coaching course under the Rothmans national coaching scheme.

Jimmy Rooney was added to the squad only recently because of his leadership qualities and because he still is not out of the running for a place in the national squad.

Of the players in the State squad, at least eight have attended or completed coaching courses — Steve Short, John Yeendoom, Jim Paton (Slavia), Jim Tansey, Gary Cole (Fitzroy), Chris Kalafatis (South Melbourne), John Gardiner, Carl Gilder (Croatia).

In training sessions, McEndrey has put great emphasis on the midfielders releasing the ball very quickly to the front-runners and then supporting.

He will go to Sydney to watch the Australian XI play against Wisla on Sunday. The game will give him an idea of Wisla's strengths and weaknesses and will also give him the opportunity to watch Joe Picioane in action.

Picioane is in line for one of the three Victorian midfield positions — but only if he doesn't hold the ball too long in Sydney.

Goalkeeper in the Victorian team will be either

Peter Laumets (St. M

(Croatia), with Laumets h

already played for Australi

At this stage it looks lik

back, although Kalafatis id

position as well as the swi

is the other candidate for

The stopper will be Ste

and Tansey will be at left

Rooney is the No 1 ch

Gardiner, Picioane and Je

McEndrey regards him as

man in Australia. Tommy

Cole and Paton, who was

League last year, are vying

tions.

McEndrey had hoped to u

lan under 19 players — Th

Krnovic, George Christo

vidan — but they left for

than had been expected.

McEndrey and his men h

as their predecessors, le

McKay, beat Dundas of St

Park last year.

Victoria's line-up was:

Melb): V. Bannon (Frank

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Provan (Fitzroy), Alan

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Tommy Cumming (Croatia

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Watkins (53rd).

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and 24 losses, scoring 39 g

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against Dundee.

A 0-0 draw with Moscow

a 2-2 draw with Velez Mos



Dixie Deans



Keith Schumann

Quads

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Sth Melb Hellas), Yakka

), Jim Tansey (Fitzroy). (Croatia), John Yzen- (Sth Melb Hellas).

(Fitzroy), Joe Picioane ner (Croatia), Joe Tront

ari Gilder (Croatia), Jim y).

side): (Adelaide City), Martyn

(Adelaide City), Barry ozanic (West Adelaide). fest Adelaide).

Brian Northcote, John cGachey, Peter Boyle (Polonia).

Dixie Deans (Adelaide ide).

in, Col Bennett, Eddie Fairbrother (Brisbane y, Roberto Echeverria, (Brisbane City), Steve Thistle), Jeff Dann (Ip- rley).



Ken Boden



Jim Hermiston

Wisla two wins from European Cup final

With luck, Wisla could reach the 1979 European Cup final.

In the quarter-final, the first leg of which will be played on March 7, Wisla is drawn against Malmoe FF of Sweden, a relatively weak opponent.

If it is lucky enough to draw the winner of the Austria Wien v. Dinamo Dresden match in the semi-finals, Wisla will be well on the way to perhaps bringing the European Cup to Poland for the first time.

The draw for the European Cup quarter-finals: Wisla v. Malmoe. FC Cologne v. Glasgow Rangers. Nottingham Forest v. Grasshopper Zurich. Austria Wien v. Dinamo Dresden.

Quarter-final draws in the other two European competitions:

Cup Winners' Cup: FC Magdeburg v. Banik Ostrava. Inter Milan v. SK Beveren. Fortuna Dusseldorf v. Servette Geneva. Ipswich v. Barcelona.

UEFA Cup: Hertha BSC Berlin v. Dukla Prague. Honved Budapest v. MSV Duisburg. Red Star Belgrade v. West-Bromwich Albion. Manchester City v. Borussia Moenchengladbach.

First leg matches in all three competitions will be played on March 7 and second leg matches on March 21.

Surprise from the Opal Den

The Opal Den, specialists in polished stones, will present each member of touring team Wisla Krakow with an opal.

The opals valued at around \$12 each, can be used as a tie pin or mounted on a ring. The Opal Den is at 17 Howey Place, Melbourne.



Wisla Krakow defenders Antoini Szymanowski (left) and Henryk Maculiewicz sandwich Klaus Fisher in Poland's scoreless draw with West Germany in the opening game of the 1978 World Cup finals.

Special training for the tour

Wisla interrupted its players' Christmas holidays and ordered them to train in preparation for the tour of Australia.

A special training camp was organised in Krakow's biggest hall on December 27. The regular squad was enlarged, with five newcomers — defenders Peter Skrobowski and Eddie Graca and strikers Richard Swiatek, Bogdan Dziegal and Richard Suder.

In freezing conditions the players worked solidly for three weeks and were then

assembled at Limonawa, a holiday resort in Eastern Poland.

The tourists left Poland on January 28.

The inclusion of Andrzej Iwan was not certain as the player was under a club suspension. Wisla's ambition is to do an Australian tour as well as Legia did in 1974, if not better.

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game that was abandoned due to crowd violence just before the end of the 90 minutes, were also good results.

Victoria's results since 1970:

1970

v Hertha 03 (West Berlin) 1-1, goal Mackay.

v Rumania 0-1.

v Moscow Dynamo 1-7, goal Smart.

v South Australia 2-2, goals: Vojtek 2.

v NSW 2-2, goals: Vojtek, Utesenovic.

v Manchester City 0-3.

v Werder Bremen (W. Germany) 1-2, goal Mici.

v South Australia 1-0, goal: Gorrie.

1971

v Kosice (Czech) 1-5, goal: Clarey.

v Toyo Kogyo (Japan) 3-5, goals: Kokkinos 2.

Rogers

v Moscow Dynamo 0-0.

v South Australia 0-3.

v South Australia 1-1, goal: Lopatic.

v English FA XI 1-3, goal: Wallace.

v Welsh FA XI 2-1 goals: Vojtek, Zoraja.

1972

v Cruzeiro 1-4, goal: Marshall.

v South Australia 2-0, goals: Mackay, Irvine.

v South Australia 0-4.

v Dundee 2-4, goals: Rujevic, Buljevic.

1973

v Santos 0-2.

v Cruzeiro 1-2, goals: Buljevic.

v Australia 1-2, goal: Cunningham.

1974

v Ferencvaros 2-3, goals: Micevski, Buljevic.

v Bristol Rovers 2-1, goals: Howie, Armstrong.

1975

v Legia Warsaw 1-4, goal: Buljevic.

v Glasgow Rangers 1-5, goal: Buljevic.

v Benfica 0-2.

v Australia B 1-3, goal: French.

1976

v Velez Mostar 2-2 (abandoned), goals: Ollerton, Ristovski.

v South Australia 1-2, goal: French.

v Tottenham Hotspur 1-3, goal: Bernard.

v Bologna 0-4.

v Italian Army 1-2, goal: Buljevic.

v Atromitos (Greece) 1-1, goal: French pen.

1977

v South Australia 2-1, goals: Roberts, Baker pen.

v Middlesbrough 0-4.

1978

v Dundee 2-1, goals: McClymont, Ford o.g.



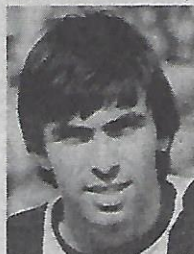
Essendon Croatia striker Carl Gilder — best target man in Australia?



Goalkeeper Peter Laumets in action for Australia against Greece last year.

Domazos, Antoniadis, Delikaris are flops

National accident scheme



Delikaris

Five months after their transfers, Greek soccer stars Mimis Domazos, Antonis Antoniadis and George Delikaris, are creating problems.

The three players caused the biggest upset in Greek soccer when they were dismissed from their former clubs in 1978.

Domazos and Antoniadis were ousted from Panathinaikos because of a rift between them and their coach Kaz Gornak.

Delikaris was banned for good by Olympiakos, for disciplinary reasons, and is also now suspended.

As if the sacking of three of the biggest stars in Greek football wasn't controversial enough, current national division leader

A.E.K. rushed to sign Domazos, though Panathinaikos and Olympiakos topped the controversy by signing each other's sacked player.

So Delikaris went from Olympiakos to Panathinaikos to Olympiakos.

Now, after five months and well into the first round of the championship, the three clubs are beginning to feel the results of their rushed decisions, because none of the stars is playing well —

in fact one of them, Delikaris, who is suspended, is not playing at all. Domazos is trying hard to get back into form but apart from three good games, his performance is average. He has also created a problem for his coach, world football personality Ferenc Puskas, in midfield.

Puskas had to decide between him and another star, Mimis Papaioannou, for that position.

Puskas still believes that Domazos can hit top form, but well-informed sources say that club president Loukas Barlos is wondering if he made the right decision a few months ago.

It is also said that family problems are taking their toll on Domazos, who was recently divorced by his wife, one of Greece's top singing stars, Viky Moschellou.

So it is doubtful that "Shorty" (as fans call him), the man who led his former team Panathinaikos to Wembley for the European Cup final against Ajax, will have a successful career in A.E.K.

Since joining Olympiakos Antoniadis has offered little. He is far too slow, his style does not fit into modern soccer and so his coach Toza Vasselilovic is doubtful about him.

During the recent Australian tour by Olympiakos, the tall forward showed nothing of his talent and experience and during the Melbourne game I often wondered why the club signed him at all.

Before the team's arrival in Melbourne it was said that Antoniadis may join South Melbourne Hellas, but after his performance I'm sure that coach David Mackaren wouldn't even consider it.

The dismissal of George Delikaris from Olympiakos started a court case. The player took his former club to court over his right to join the club of his choice after eight years of continuous service. Now his new club, Panathinaikos, can't use him in league games because of his suspension.

Delikaris has played in friendly games but his form is understandably low despite his statement to the press that he had found peace within himself and that he would give his best to Panathinaikos.

So, in the middle of the season we have three clubs wondering whether they made the right decision in buying champions dumped by their former clubs.

One could raise the question of why these clubs did not have the sense to spend their money on younger and more promising players who are everyday brushed aside to make space for some tired and undisciplined footballers.

Officials rushed to sign these players just for a publicity stunt and nothing else.

Up to now, such decisions have done nothing to improve the game in Greece and maybe because of such moves Greek soccer will never have the chance to spread outside its national borders.

Officials rushed to sign these players just for a publicity stunt and nothing else.

Ken Shillito, replaced at Chelsea by Danny Blanchflower as manager, was 24 years with the Pensioners as a player, coach and then manager.

Harry Gregg, that great Manchester United goalkeeper who survived the 1958 Munich air disaster and has lately been coach of Crewe Alexandra, has returned to United and Old Trafford to become the first specialist goalkeeper coach in Britain.



Domazos

The Australian Soccer Federation has been closely examining insurance problems and the expenses encountered by affiliated clubs throughout Australia.

At the beginning of last season, the Federation appointed R.E. Bott Insurance Brokers Pty Limited to investigate all areas of insurance associated with the sport and to recommend specialised policies which provide both improved cover and premium savings.

The initial major promotion was a national personal accident scheme because this was the area of greatest concern, particularly when players are injured and unable to work, resulting in financial stress to their families.

Thankfully, the majority of these injuries were of a relatively minor nature, and no soccer players were permanently incapacitated in any form during the 1978 season.

The national personal accident scheme for 1979 has been designed to allow each club secretary throughout Australia to select the individual cover that he requires, which is in keeping within the club's premium allocation fund.

The federation cannot stress strongly enough the responsibility of each club president and secretary to protect their players and their hard-working officials at all times.

Club Secretaries throughout Australia may obtain a copy of brochures from the offices of Associated Group Insurance Limited in their respective States or direct from R.E. Bott Insurance Brokers Pty Limited, 61-65 Stead Street, South Melbourne, Vic.

Argentina v. Holland — again!

From JIM COOK
our European correspondent

Argentina and Holland will put on a repeat of the 1978 World Cup final on May 22 in Bern as part of the celebrations to mark the anniversary of the founding of FIFA. In Zurich around the same time, the new FIFA House, a building containing all sorts of fascinating features, will be officially opened for the 75th anniversary.

Cesar Luis Menotti, Argentina's national coach who quit his post at Christmas said he had done so because of differences with the Argentine F.A. It was reported that Menotti was poorly paid even in comparison with Alfie McLeod when he was with Ayr United on 12,000 pounds.

Kevin Keelan the first team and regular goalkeeper of Norwich City is the oldest player in first class football in Britain. Keelan turned 38 on January 6 but is playing as well as ever.

Malcolm Macdonald has had two knee operations since the summer and has played only 20 minutes of first team football

since August. Reports say that he may be able to resume in February but on the other hand there seem to be some fears that the former S.M. Hellas guest player may have to quit the game at the early age of 28.

Christmas brought the death of Stan Seymour, chairman of Newcastle United for many years and a playing member of the Newcastle side which won the first division title in 1927. Seymour was 84.

Peter Marinello who guested with Canberra City last year and who had been unable to command a regular first team place with Motherwell, moved to Fulham for 30,000 pounds.

Glacinto Facchetti, the former Italian captain, is to become manager of Lausanne in Switzerland whose average crowds are about 2000.

Emlyn Hughes, the England and Liverpool captain, could join Third Division Swansea at the end of the season. At Swansea he would line up with five other players from the Kop — John Toshack, Ian Callaghan,



Menotti

Tommy Smith, Phil Boersma and Alan Waddle.

Benfica's midfield star Alves wears black woollen gloves summer-winter as a memorial to his grandfather Carlo who was an outstanding international in the late 20's and early 30's.

Scottish Premier League side Aberdeen boasts the only all-seater stadium in Britain.

John Bond, five years at Norwich as manager, has had his contract extended for a further nine years which will take him to 55 and eligible for retirement.

All league clubs in Northern Ireland have been allocated 50,000 pounds of government money for ground improvements while the big match and international venue, Windsor Park in Belfast



Facchetti

gets 100,000 pounds for a facility.

Alinho is a name likely to be around top Portuguese soccer for a long time to come. Anton Alinho is presently one of the Portugal national team stars, another brother, Jacob, is in the running for top honours, while another 14 brothers are on the up and up with other teams.

Sammy Chung sacked by Wolves as manager, is now team boss of Swedish 2nd Division side Vasateras.

West Ham had Partizan Belgrade goalkeeper Rajko Pericich over in London for a two-week trial period but didn't take up an option on his services.

Ally McLeod manager of



Marinello



Macdonald

Scotland's ill-fated team in Argentina got himself an 8,000 pound a year rise when he moved from well-placed Scottish First Division side Ayr United to struggling Premier League side Motherwell. Ally was on 12,000 pounds with Ayr but gets 20,000 pounds with Motherwell.

Ken Shillito, replaced at Chelsea by Danny Blanchflower as manager, was 24 years with the Pensioners as a player, coach and then manager.

Harry Gregg, that great Manchester United goalkeeper who survived the 1958 Munich air disaster and has lately been coach of Crewe Alexandra, has returned to United and Old Trafford to become the first specialist goalkeeper coach in Britain.



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Great Scot!

Newly-promoted State League club Croydon City has signed another player from the Scottish League.

Dave Broghan, a midfielder/forward from Forfar Athletic, is expected to join Croydon in time for the club's Ampol Cup campaign.

Broghan, who was recommended to Croydon by midfielder Joe Trent, will team up with former Forfar Athletic defender Jimmy Spink and ex-East Fife midfielder Duncan Smith.

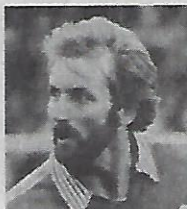
Young forward Paul Priestly has transferred to Croydon from Mooroolbark Utd. Priestly, who had P.S.L. experience with the Barkers, has impressed in training runs with his sharpness.

Croydon looks certain to sign South Melbourne's Billy Rogers.

Coach Mike Plunkett has been reappointed, and all of last year's players will be retained.

Croydon Park has undergone some improvement work, and an embankment terracing has been added around some parts of the ground.

A players' race has also been built, and the toilets improved.



Billy Rogers

No Baker

Hakoah St Kilda will be without veteran defender David Baker for most of the club's Ampol Cup games.

Baker, a dual winner of the Rothmans Gold Medal, is holidaying in England.

But his absence could be a blessing in disguise for Hakoah coach Frank Miele. The gap in defence could be filled by the club's new signing Michael Loh. Loh, a solid 18-year-old, transferred from Waverley City. Although he has played much of his soccer in the forward line, he was used as a centre half in the Victorian under 18 team.

Hakoah is well-stocked with forwards, and Loh might struggle to win a place ahead of Mike Clary, Graham French, Les Naggy, George Craig, or Sean Rooney in the forward line.

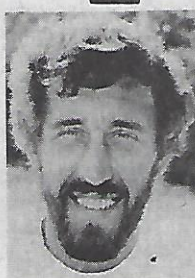
Ian Gibson and Gerry Edmondson are recovering well from cartilage operations.

Hakoah's administration is basically the same as the one which guided the club in 1978.

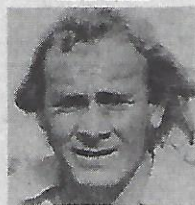
Dennis Krongold, the instigator of the Hakoah revival, is president, with John Chaskal (chairman) and Mike Dudak (assistant chairman).

Kurt Defrie is preparing for his 30th year as secretary of the club. Fred Weiden is junior secretary.

Chairman of the juniors is Henry Fromer.



Martin Chivers



Willie Coulson

Reborn Juve plans facelift

Juventus, the former Victorian soccer giant, has swallowed its pride and kissed the past goodbye.

The Italian-backed club, which crashed to its lowest ebb last season after a slow, painful descent, is building the foundations of a new era.

Past glories will be remembered fondly by the men in black and white, but will no longer overshadow the present.

Juventus has been re-born! In the words of Rocco Di Zio, the man whose efforts have breathed fresh air into the club, Juventus is starting from scratch, and is no longer too proud to ask for help.

"Juventus is starting from scratch. We have very little to build on, and the club will be asking for help from many different people and groups."

"Nobody gets a thing in today's world unless they ask."



Peter Vaughan

Juve is no longer too proud to ask for help. In the past we have relied on charity, and then pity, but that is all over.

Over the past three years, Juventus has been like a ship without a rudder. If there weren't drastic changes, there wouldn't be any point continuing.

The changes have come. They are total and they are drastic. The venture isn't a public relations stunt to remove the stigma of last season, when infighting was rife, financial difficulty a fact of life and poor on-field performances a sad reminder.

Juventus has taken several bold initiatives and the blue prints for future growth are impressive.

Juventus is determined to find a home ground of its own. Di Zio said the club was trying to secure Collier St. Reserve, the former home ground of Preston.

All efforts will be made to avoid using Olympic Park as a home ground. Running costs and rent for the ground set Juventus back \$1,000 for every home game last season.

This was the main cause of the club's financial trouble.

Juventus has come to agreement with the Club Cavour, a censored club in South Melbourne. The Juventus Social Club will be contained in the Club Cavour, and will be open five nights a week offering restaurant facilities and entertainment.

The soccer club will have offices in the complex, and, most importantly, will gain financially from the venture.

The Juventus Supporters Club will be established.

The aim of the supporters' club is to utilise supporters who are concerned with the club's growth, but are too old or busy to contribute actively.

The supporters' club will have a \$1,000 membership fee, which gives an example of the scale the club is thinking on.

Juventus has developed an impressive sponsorship scheme. They will attempt to secure several sponsors, ranging from large national companies to small businesses.

Under the plan, Juventus members will be issued with a card, which will get them a discount on goods or services purchased from a Juventus sponsor.

Half the discount will come off the price of the good or service and the other half will go to Juventus.

Juventus will also ask other clubs to aid it financially. Di Zio maintains the many Italian-backed soccer clubs and soccer clubs in the state will come to Juve's aid.

On the playing side, Juventus has regained the services of Tony Boggi.

His assistant is Rocky Frangioni, the former Juve defender and ex-coach of Clayton.

Peter Vaughan has been transferred from South Melbourne, and Fausto Tarquino, the former Australian under 23 international, has returned after standing out of the game for a year.

Former Mooroolbark and Fitzroy Utd goalkeeper Terry Hawke may join Juventus, and Fawkner strikers Carlo Baravelli and Tony 'Shippy' Scipiano are being sought.

Fawkner's attitude towards releasing the two young strikers has disappointed Juventus. Baravelli and Scipiano are ripe for the State League, but Fawkner has dismissed talk of a transfer.

Victorian big league

— with Kyle Patterson

'NORWICH STAR WILL VISIT': FRANKSTON

Frankston City is determined to go through with plans to import Martin Peters and Martin Chivers from English First division team Norwich City.

Vice-president Del Unes is currently negotiating with Norwich manager and personal friend John Bond to arrange for Peters or Chivers to play a six-week stint for Frankston around June or July.

"The club is serious," said secretary Les Smith. "We have arranged sponsorship to cover accommodation, air fares and many other expenses."

A visit by either player would be a great boost for soccer in the area, and for that reason, we will be doing our best to make sure the venture is a success.

Smith is confident that Peters or Chivers would come to Australia if they decided to play in the English off season.

"Frankton wants one of the players for six weeks," said Smith.

"In America, clubs only want to sign guest players available for a whole season. That gives us an advantage."

Unes, who is staying in England with West Ham full back Frank Lampard, is making other valuable contacts while in England.

Already Frankston has signed two English players.

Kevin Swinason, a 19 year old forward from Nottingham Forest, arrived recently.

Ron Briggs, a 6 ft 11 in. striker from Bedford Town, is migrating to Australia and has a job lined up.

Frankston may import a goalkeeper if negotiations with Fitzroy Utd for the transfer of Peter Bessie break down.

Frankston will have a new look team for 1979. Smith, who admits Frankston played some awful football last season, said the club is devoting more effort to the playing side.

"We spent a lot of time on our new ground last season," he said, "and tended to neglect the team. But this season we have signed some very good soccer players."

They include Noel Mitten, Alby Brown, Danny McCluskey, Willie Coulson and possibly Bobby McGuinness.

Brown's transfer was subject to Frankston City agreeing to undertake responsibility for the player to the Immigration Department.

McGuinness' transfer from South Melbourne was expected to go through with no hitches.

Frankston has lost the services of several players, including strikers Gordon MacGregor and Gus Eadie, and defenders Sandy Irvine and Eric Gillespie.

MacGregor has transferred to top Scottish club Partick Thistle for \$4,500.

Eadie, a former St Mirren (Scotland) player and one of the characters at Frankston last season, is playing in Boston, U.S.A.

Irvine's transfer to Third division Morwell Falcons is still full of controversy.

Irvine has already appealed to the V.S.F., but had the motion rejected.

Gillespie has returned to Scotland.

New Frankston coach Freddy Dunce will announce a squad shortly before the start of the Ampol Cup. Any players not included will be put on the transfer list by Frankston.

Militants scare V.S.F. : Wilson

Albion Rovers' president Russell Wilson has hit out at the Victorian Soccer Federation for not taking a harder line with militant players.

Wilson said the V.S.F. was afraid to go to court over challenges to the transfer system by players, and in effect was taking the players' side in disputes.

"The V.S.F. had \$5000 legal expenses in 1978," said Wilson, "and that was after only a few cases reached court. More and more players will use legal channels to win a transfer, so the V.S.F. via the Appeals Board, is making it easier for players so to avoid astronomical expenses."

"The V.S.F. is protecting the transfer system and its own finances at the expense of clubs, which have their hands tied behind their backs."

Wilson said an Appeals Board decision to grant 10 Albion players free transfers cost the club \$10,000.

The figure is arrived at after totalling the amount spent on transfer and signing on fees for the players, which cannot be recouped.



Martin Peters



Russell Wilson

"More clubs will lose heavily because of Appeals Board decisions, and the V.S.F. will have a real headache," said Wilson.

Wilson said it was ludicrous the amount of scope players are getting.

The 10 players who went to the V.S.F. last season were within their rights," said Wilson. "They had contracts and the club missed payment of wages one week."

"But under the circumstances, the players' actions were greedy, selfish and unreasonable."

The circumstances Wilson is referring to involve a nine-day period in which Albion had to pay three sets of wages. This was caused by a midweek fixture, a postponed game against Slavia - from which Albion gained little income.

"At no stage did we say to the players we wouldn't pay them for that match," said Wilson. "We asked them for some time to boost finances, but all they were worried about was their money."

What makes Wilson mad is his club's lack of power to react when the boot is on the other foot.

"We paid Alan Lenders and George Makousis their signing on fees," said Wilson, "and straight away they quit the club. If players can hold a knife at a club's throat, surely the club must have some rights?"

After the major reshuffles of last season, Albion, under new coach Mike Lynn, is slowly assembling a squad.

Bill Johnston has been signed for Sunshine City, and will vie for the goalkeeper's spot with Jim Green, who is currently recovering from a leg break accident.

Bearded full back Jim Johnston, another leg break victim, wants to join Kooro Australia.

Jim Daperis is training with Hakoah St. Kilda, the club of his brother, John, the former South Melbourne midfielder.

CROATIA STARS FACE FINES

Three star players from Essendon Croatia's 1978 championship-winning team are facing fines of up to \$200.

The fines, hanging over the heads of Tommy Cumming, Steve Kokoska and John Gardiner, may be imposed on the players for failure to attend official pre-season training.

Croatia manager Frank Burlin has warned the players they risk a \$50 fine every time they miss training without reason.

The decision on whether the fines will be enforced will be made when the players sign contracts for this season.

Cumming, who has been linked with Preston, and Kokoska are expected to remain with Croatia, but Gardiner's future with the club is in the balance.

The club is eager to retain him, but even last season, Gardiner indicated he was undecided.

Cumming, however, has little chance of transferring from Croatia. He has an undertaking with the Department of Immigration that he will not play with any other club.

This stems from department regulations regarding the welfare of people on temporary residence visas.

Kokoska and Cumming are currently training with the Victorian State squad for the upcoming game against Wisla of Poland.

Miller out for year

Prelim Slavia, which has been hindered in past years by a high turnover on its playing staff, is making a concerted effort to get a settled squad from the outset of this season.

Two players - goalkeeper Peter Clarke and midfielder Joe McPherson - are on the transfer list, but the rest seem certain to remain.

The squad will be bolstered by English imports Alex McPherson, a goalkeeper, and midfielder Paul Cook.

Cook and McPherson come to Australia with impressive credentials, as have a lot of Slavia's imports.

McPherson, 21, did an apprenticeship with Everton, and Cook, 20, with Leeds United.

The bad news for Slavia is promising defender Andy Miller. Last season Miller had his leg broken by an opposition player, and the injury hasn't healed sufficiently for him to resume playing.

Miller could be on the sidelines another eight months, which means he'll be a spectator this season.

Two Slavia juniors, Andrew and Mark Golby, had the experience of a lifetime during their school holidays.

The former Frankston City boys spend a considerable amount of time in England training with top First division team Manchester City.

The trip, financed by the boys' parents, and organised by Slavia president Peter Collins, M.L.A., gave the lads a chance to work in professional soccer surroundings, as well as rub shoulders with some big names like Brian Kidd, Kaz Deyna, Asa Hartford, Mike Channon and Dave Weston.

Tom O'Halloran, Slavia's Australian schoolboy international, also visited Britain, and spent some time with Glasgow Celtic.



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MILAN MIJUSKOVIC
Manager

RIGBY RETURNS



Preston is in the process of signing Box Hill striker Ian Tuffield and Adelaide City midfielder Dave Rigby.

Manager Tony Vrzina is hopeful of signing two players from the U.K. to put the finishing touches on his re-building programme.

So far this season, Vrzina has signed goalkeeper Lou Kastner from Kooro Australia, defender Dave Garthwaite from Ringwood City, midfielder/defender Mike Reiney from Hakoah St Kilda and midfielder Erico Abreu from Hong Kong.

Vrzina doesn't expect to have his team settled until near the end of the Ampol Cup.

"We have a lot of work to do before the team is the way I want it," said Vrzina, so we will not be at our peak for the Ampol Cup."

On the transfer list at Preston are Colin McGifford, Paul Halam, Frank McAleer and Chris Glennon. Chris Petrov, who was transfer-listed earlier in the year, may be added to Vrzina's squad.

Youngsters Busko Maselkovski and Alex Najdovski will be included in the first team squad.

Preston goalkeeper Lou Kastner looks back despairingly as a penalty shot enters the net during a practice match against South Melbourne.

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Vojtek deal called off

The player swap deal arranged to take former Soccerero Bill Vojtek from Essendon Croatia to Green Gully has fallen through.

Vojtek was to be traded for Green Gully striker David Perkins, but Croatia lost enthusiasm in the idea.

Green Gully will now have to pay Croatia a transfer fee to secure Vojtek as a player. The new Green Gully coach has indicated he wants to continue playing.

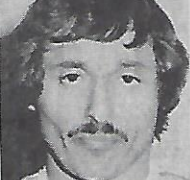
Perkins will return to Green Gully.

Vojtek has attacked his new job with Green Gully with great enthusiasm. He is pleased with the way his squad has come up after training runs, and predicts big things this season.

"We will be up there with the best," he said. "We fear no team in the league, and will give the people of Green Gully something to be proud of."

Vojtek heaped praise on striker Steve Carr.

"I know a good player when I see one," he said. "Carr is very fast and skilful, and it will not be long before he represents Victoria."



Billy Vojtek

Long-serving defender Franz Berens has been appointed team manager of Green Gully.

Berens, who retired at the end of last season, is the club's first team manager.

His tasks include looking after the affairs of players on match days, as well as liaising between the club and its playing staff.

He will be working closely with new Green Gully coach Bill Vojtek.

Berens may have his first problem after club officials announced a new policy towards players wages.

Green Gully has decided to significantly reduce payments for games ending in a draw or loss for the club.

FOR SALE: A STRIKING DUO

For sale — one goalscoring duo, only one owner, good as new, gets 36 goals per season, \$20,000, or nearest offer. Apply George Cross soccer club.

Although it's unlikely George Cross will be placing any advertisements to that effect, that's the message the club is giving.

The club in question is Robert Cullen and Ken Reed. George Cross has quoted Cullen at \$10,000, and it's unlikely Reed would go for less than Cullen.

That means a lot of money if any club wants to get the George pair, who grabbed 36 goals last season.

The fiery Cullen has made it quite clear he will not play for George Cross again, and Reed has ambitions of leaving the Cross for a bigger club.

Preston has shown interest in Walker, but will not pay \$10,000 for the explosive winger.

George Cross, which now has a new administration, also has Alex McConville and Kevin Walker on the transfer list.

Walker, one of the best wingers seen at George Cross, stood out last season after being dumped by coach Johnny Sanchez who has been reappointed.

George Cross has put a \$3,000 price tag on his head, but Walker



Ken Reed

has written to the club to protest against the figure.

Paul Murphy, who was also dumped by Sanchez, is undecided about his future in Australian soccer.

The club says Murphy intends to quit Australia and return to Ireland, his homeland. But there is a chance Murphy will stay and attempt to get a transfer.

The new administration comprises Paul Borg (president), Alf Zahra (vice president, publicity officer), Joe Borg-Gusman (secretary), Paul Deguara (treasurer), John Borg (public relations), Alfred Farrugia (fund raising), Charlie Debonata (property), Alfred Ciantar J.P. (social club manager), Paul Bonnici, Reno Micallef and Charles Cassar (social club organisers).

Sunshine 'railed'

VicRail, the lovable bunch of transport 'experts', has given soccer followers a sample of its remarkable (?) style in overcoming problems.



Bill Johnston

Banagan a bargain

Altona City, determined to be a force in Victorian soccer, has signed two top players.

Talented midfielder Terry Banagan has crossed from nearby western suburbs club Sunshine City, and Harry Hind, a striker in the Lancashire League in England, has signed up.

Altona is interested in Box Hill forward Serge Berardini, and will regain the services of striker Bob Taylor, who returned home to England for a holiday.

Banagan's contract with Sunshine expired, and had a clause which made him a free agent. The free transfer to Altona could be the bargain of the season.

Hind, who had trials with English First division side Aston Villa, should be in Australia in time for the start of the Ampol Cup.

Berardini was considering returning to his old Provisional League club Nunawading before Altona invited him to train.

Two Altona youngsters — Kevin Wilson and Johnny Little — have been added to the first team squad for the Ampol Cup games.

Kevin is the son of Altona coach Joe Wilson, and Johnny the brother of striker Nat Little.

Last year, Sunshine City soccer club, realising its lease of VicRail property at Anderson Road would expire in 1990, applied for an extended, long-term agreement so it would be able to develop the site.

VicRail was quick to action (it probably didn't realise it owned land at Anderson Road), and took the opportunity to increase Sunshine's rental from \$800 a year to \$15,500!

The increase floored Sunshine, but VicRail (bless their little hearts) came to the party with a compromise which would allow Sunshine to avoid paying \$15,500 per year in rent.

VicRail said it would sell the land to Sunshine City, the Sunshine Council or both in a joint venture for a mere \$244,000!

Naturally, both the club and the council laughed at VicRail's suggestion, but Sunshine still has a problem.

Although there is still 12 years to run on the lease, Sunshine realises the problem must be solved soon. Either party can give two year's notice on the termination of the lease!

Sunshine desperately wants to retain the Anderson Road ground, as the cost of developing another ground would be astronomical.

Disgruntled Sunshine goalkeeper Billy Johnson who stood out most of last season after a dispute, has left the club.

Johnson has joined Albion Rovers, Sunshine's neighbour.

Terry Banagan has also left Sunshine, for Altona, but Sunshine expects to retain the rest of last year's squad.

Sunshine plans to introduce three young reserve players into the senior ranks.

They are Andy Esposito, John McNally and Rick Szalota.

On the administration side Sunshine has had a few reshuffles.

Bobby Pocock has stood down as secretary, and been replaced by Miss Lori Critz.



South Australian Ampol Cup

WEST ADELAIDE 2 ELIZABETH CITY 1

Scorers: Henderson (EC) 15th, Koulianos (WA) 50th, Lorenzoni (WA) 71st.

Crowd: 1,500

Ground: Excellent

Weather: mild

Cautions: Boyd (Elizabeth)

Referee: John Tarling 6.

West Adelaide: Crook 8, Atsalas 8, Pantzaras 7, Batchelor 7, Tymczyszyn 6, Dooley 7, Koulianos 8, Dedes 7, Lorenzoni 8, McGregor 7, Totskias 7 (Calandaris).

Elizabeth: Delfos 8, Bonnar 6 (Greenhalgh), Morrison 7, Strain 7, Mitchell 7, Henderson 8, Delfos 7, Boyd 7, McGregor 6, Acton 6 (Hill), Dobbey 7.

West Adelaide, playing with only three of their PSL stars, edged out Elizabeth City 2-1 at Hindmarsh Stadium last Friday night.

Only goalkeeper Martyn Crook, striker Ian McGregor and defender Peter Tymczyszyn were PSL regulars with West Adelaide.

West included Polonia midfielder Garrie Dooley and their young PSL reserve striker George Koulianos.

Koulianos and teenage striker Aldo Lorenzoni who made his debut for West last September in the second leg of the Escort Cup match against Adelaide City and scored, were two of the stars of this match.

West had Elizabeth's measure for the first 15 minutes but a sloppy piece of defensive work by Tymczyszyn allowed midfielder Bobby Henderson to score.

Henderson scooped the ball 12 metres from goal after Tymczyszyn failed to clear and on an angle slipped it past Crook.

Garrie Dooley started West's revival with a long range shot which Robbie Delfos stopped and moments later McGregor just failed to get his head to a great cross from Peter Totskias.

West grabbed the equaliser in the 50th minute when Koulianos blasted a rebound from close range.

Two minutes later Henderson almost restored Elizabeth's lead but his firm ground shot was blocked by Crook.

Koulianos sparked off the best move of the match in the 15th minute when he flashed past three defenders on the right flank slipped it to Dooley who raced onto it and blasted it first time from 25 metres straight at Delfos.

West finally clinched the winner in the 71st minute when Lorenzoni beat two defenders to a cross field ball, drew out Delfos and cracked it past him.

— MENO TOUTSIDIS

CUMBERLAND 1 CROATIA 1

Scorers: Leane (C) 47th min, Hayes (Cro) 53rd min.

Crowd: 1,500

Ground: Excellent

Weather: Mild

Cautions: Evans, Ball and Leane (Cumberland)

Referee: Paul Smallman 7.

Croatia: Przybylski 7, Holland 7, Kotlar 7, Toth 7, Williams 7, Bendall 7, Pope 6 (Matolic), Thomson 7, Jordan 7, Hayes 8, Harrow 7.

Cumberland: Parks 8, B. Leane 7, Harvey 7, Stuart 7, Ball 7, Evans 7, Pankhurst 7, Davies 7, D. Leane 8, Reeves 7, Mahoney 7.

State League champion Cumberland fought an exciting 1-1 draw with stylish Croatia in the opening group B match in the South Australian Ampol Cup.

Cumberland relying heavily on grit and force, which accounted for much of its success last season, appeared to have the game within its reach early in the second half, but Croatia deservedly grabbed an equaliser.

The opening half developed into a stalemate and the only move of any significance was Ian Bendall's cross to diminutive John Pope in the 17th minute. His first time shot was blocked by Cumberland's Robert Parks.

The second half opened at a cracking pace and little Terry Hayes lifted Croatia with several discreet runs.

He exerted his influence just three minutes after half time when he outwitted a defender and shot powerfully, but Parks saved comfortably.

Cumberland scored the opening goal four minutes later when David Mahoney's shot was collected off the bar by lanky David Leane, who lashed it past Przybylski from 10 metres.

Elusive Charlie Harrow came close with a powerful header in the 49th minute, but Parks handled it easily.

Cumberland went on the defensive as Croatia searched for the equaliser but Parks was in fine touch.

However just when it appeared as if Croatia had burnt itself out, Hayes slipped between two defenders and pushed the ball past Parks from 15 metres.

Croatia's new coach David Jenkins is confident his side can reach the semi finals, and on the basis of the team's performance in this match his optimism seems justified.

Obviously Cumberland has as good a chance as reaching the semi finals, but while determination earned it success last season, I doubt whether it will be enough to take it all the way in this competition.

— MENO TOUTSIDIS

Bonus points for attackers

Teams winning matches by four goals or more in the Philips League this year will receive a bonus point.

This is aimed at encouraging more attacking soccer and, indirectly, producing a greater public spectacle.

The PSL league committee, in deciding this, overruled the PSL Council of Clubs which had rejected this very idea, originally proposed by national coach Rudi Gutendorf.

All other point rewards for matches remain the same.

The league committee also decided to carry out a full and minutely detailed survey on the ages and origins of all PSL players.

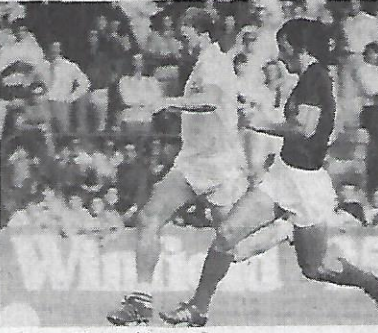
Once completed, the PSL will be able to formulate a

new youth policy favouring Australian born and bred players.

ASF president, Sir Arthur George, told the meeting that an increased concentration on local youth was very much in the interest of Australian soccer.

"This would also lessen at long last the dependence on overseas players."

However, this policy cannot be formulated until the survey is completed, showing the percentage of Australian and overseas players now registered with PSL clubs.



Peter Ollerton (above, left) is training with Footscray J.U.S.T. and has agreed on terms.

Whether or not he becomes a Footscray player depends upon his form at training and on Footscray and Marconi agreeing on a transfer fee.

Marconi wants \$10,000 but Footscray is not willing to pay that much.

Ollerton joined Marconi in mid-1978 after a clash with Dave MacLaren, coach of South Melbourne Hellas, the club with which Ollerton had played for three and a half years.

The big Soccerero striker, who played in Australia's 1973-74 and 1977 World Cup campaigns.

RANGERS OFF, AC MILAN TO TOUR

Negotiations for a tour by Glasgow Rangers this year have failed.

However, AC Milan of Italy is still expected to visit Australia mid-year, with its ageing star and club chairman Gianni Rivera.

ASF vice-president Michael Weinstein said this week he was trying to arrange a tour by Boca Junior of Buenos Aires or Belo Horizonte of Rio for 1980.

24 teams for Spain

Twenty-four teams may compete in the finals of the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

The president of the South American Soccer Confederation,

Mr Teofilo Salinas, said: "Spain has a good sports system that allows the holding of a tournament with that number of countries."

"The Government as well as King Juan Carlos have shown interest in having 24 nations as finalists," he said.

Only 16 finalist nations participated in the World Cup in Argentina last June.

Victoria 1 Adelaide City 1

Scorers: Boyle (V) 1st min, Higgins (V) own goal 14th min, Toff (V) 80th min.

Victoria: Green 7, Higgins 7, Waxman 7, Fyfe 7, Shoenfeldt 7, McKie 7, Gill 7, Boyle 7, McNally 7, Nottle 6 (Tuffs), Brown.

City: Migliaccio 7 (Marshall), Dods 8, Fragomeli 7, Besir 7, Miller 7, Portaro 7, Signore 7, Villani 7, Russo 6 (Punterei) Melta 7, Iasello 7, Vezani 7.

Polonia 0 Azzurri 1

Scorer: Smythe (A) 24th min.

AZZURRI: Metanowski 8, Michelson 7, Moschis 7, Marusic 7, Affede 7, Alder 8, Serafini 7 (Innace), Lagan 7, White 7 (Soderini), Manolev 7, Smythe 7.

POLONIA: Jacques 8, Di Bartolo 7, Maszyca 6, Kuczmarski 7, M. Kolecki 7, Larecki 7, Timar 6 (Kaye), Veroukins 6, Kritikos 7, H. Kolecki 7, Cadenaro 7.

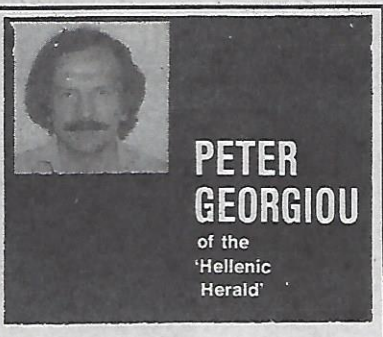
GROUP A				
	P	W	D	L
Victoria	1	1	—	2
Azzurri	1	1	—	1
Adel City	1	—	1	2
Polonia	1	—	1	1
GROUP B				
	P	W	D	L
West Adel.	1	1	—	2
Croatia	1	—	1	1
Cumberland	1	—	1	1
Elizabeth	1	—	1	2

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PETER GEORGIU
of the
'Hellenic Herald'

ΕΛΠΙΔΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΡΩΤΗΜΑΤΑ

‘Αν και φτάσαμε στο τέλος του ‘Γανουαρίου, έν τούτοις λόγω τής πρώτης εκδόσεως ρίσε το 1979 ή στήλη εύχεται : Καλή χρονιά ’ και ... καλό ποδόσφαιρο :

‘Εχουμε ακόμη έναμιση μήνα πρωτό άρ χρίσων οί ομάδες τής ‘Εθνικής κατηγορίας τήν μάχη γιά τούς βαθμούς και τό πρωτάθλημα και ή περίοδος τών μεταγραφών, έν και γιά πολλούς ακόμη βρίσκεται στό κατακόρυφο, γιά τς δύο ‘Ελληνικές ομάδες σχε δόν έχει λήξει.

Φυσικά, οί πόρτες τών σωματείων δέν έχουν κλείσει άλλα όπως φαίνεται τόσο ή ‘Ελλάς όσο και ο ‘Αλέξανδρος έχουν κάνει τς αγορές τους γιά φέτος.

Αδέν άποκλείεται όμως να έχουν και εκπλήξεις πριν από τήν έναρξη τού πρωταθλήματος.

Μέχρι στιγμής, ρίχνοντας μιά ματιά στούς νέους παίκτες τών δύο ομάδων βλέπουμε ότι και οί δύο έδωσαν περισσότερη έμφαση στήν ένισχυση τού κέντρου, είτε διότι εκεί έχουν άδυναμίες είτε διότι είναι δύσκολο να βρεθεί κανείς καλός και ... φθηνός (‘‘) παίκτες γιά τήν επίθεση.

Ετήν ‘Ελλάς ήλθαν πέντε παίκτες. ‘Ένας τερματοφύλακος (Δάμετς), δύο άμυνοί όπισθοφύλακες (Τέρνερ και Εκάρλετ) και δύο μέσοι (Ντρέκφορντ και Νταβιντσόν).

Από αυτούς είδαμε μόνον τούς Τέρνερ και Ντρέκφορντ ως κανονικό παγγίδια (με τόν ‘Ολυμπιακό) οί όποιοι άρρααν πολύ καλές έντυπώσεις.

‘Ένισχυση τών μετοπίσθεν, λοιπόν, κάνει ο κ. Μακάρρεν και με τόν Χ’ Έμμανουήλ άμφίβολο και τόν Πάν στήν όση της καριέρας του ή ομάδα χρειάζεται ένισχυση στήν άμυνα και με τούς Τέρνερ και Καλαφατίδη όπισθοφύλακες καλύπτεται τό κενό. Τό μόνο ερώτημα είναι ο Μονρό .

Θά πρέπει να χάσει άρκετό βάρος γιά να κρατηθεί στό κέντρο τής άμυνας. ‘Η πείρα του δέν είναι άρκετή, όσο μεγάλη και έν είναι, γιά να καλύψει τήν έλειψη τής εθνικιστικής κοό τών διακρίνει.

Γιά όλους αυτούς τούς καινούργιους παίκτες ή ‘Ελλάς έδωσε γύρω στίς 30.000 δολ. ένόντας 15.000 μόνον γιά τόν τερματοφύλακα Δάμετς .

Τό συνολικό ποσό δέν είναι τό έπλοημο αλλά ένας άπλός όλογοιούμος : Είναι όμως τό μικρό σχεδόν άπ’ότι έδωσε πέρυσι τό σωματείο γιά τήν... άνακαίνιση τής ομάδας .

Ο ‘Αλέξανδρος, φέτος, περιορίστηκε μόνον σέ τρεις μεταγραφές. ‘Η μία όμως, τού Τζέμ Ρούνεβ, ήταν ή καλύτερη ποό μπορούσε να κάνει .

‘Αν και τό ποσό που κλήρωσε γιά τόν διεθνή άσο δέν ξεπέρασε τς 10.000 δολ. έντότοις ή συμβολή του στήν ομάδα θά είναι φέτος άπερίοριστη.

Τά ύπόλοιπα νέα πρόσωπα στόν Μέγα είναι ο νεαρός τερματοφύλακος Τζάν ‘Ολβερ και ο Τζέμ Σαχινλόνς τός όποίους άγόρασε ο σύλλογος ένώ ταυτόχρονα έπέστρεψε ο Μάρκος Καραπάτσος και προωθήθηκε από τήν 2η ομάδα ο νεαρός Παυλίδης.

Με τόν Ρούνεβ ο ‘Αλέξανδρος λύνει τό πρόβλημα τού κέντρου και στήν άμυνα ο Καραπάτσος θα έχει θετική συμβολή.

Αυτό είναι, λοιπόν, τό νέο αίμα τών ‘Ελληνικών μας ομάδων . Ποσοί από τούς νέους παίκτες θα πιάσουν στήν ομάδα τόν εναί και ποό θα τό δείξει ο χρόνος, με μόνη εξαίρεση τόν Ρούνεβ .

Αυτό όμως ποό κάνει ασιδούχο κάθε ‘Ελληνα φίλαθλο είναι ότι οι ‘Ελληνικές ομάδες θα πρωταγωνιστήσουν και πάλι στό ‘Εθνικό πρωτάθλημα .

Τουλάχιστον, γιά τήν ώρα, έτσι δείχνουν τά πράγματα :

Olympiakos lucky in Melbourne

South Melbourne Hellas' gamble in bringing Olympiakos to Australia started well with 25,000 people attending the first game at Olympic Park but crowds in Sydney and Adelaide were disappointing.

Nevertheless, Hellas managed to break about even. Perhaps there was a small profit — but Hellas boss Sam Pappasavos wouldn't say.

Olympiakos won each of its three games — 2-1 against Hellas in Melbourne, 4-1 against a PSL combination in Sydney and 2-1 against a PSL combination in Adelaide.

But Hellas, strengthened by Jim Kondarinos, Zdravko Lujic and Mendo Ristovski of Footscray U.S.T., could easily have beaten Olympiakos instead of losing 1-2.

And Olympiakos won only because of a penalty awarded against Hellas two minutes from the end.

And Olympiakos had no forward with the class of Hellas' Alun Evans, despite the big reputation of Anton Antoniadis.

Mike Galakos, the other Olympiakos player with a big reputation, was quite impressive when taking free kicks but he was matched in midfield by Hellas' latest recruit, Ken Drakeford, whose work rate was much higher than that of Galakos.

Details — SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1 (Evans 54th) OLYMPIAKOS 2 (Perone 17th, Galakos penalty 88th) at Olympic Park crowd about 25,000.

Best players, Hellas — Evans, Baxter, Drakeford, Kalarafidis; Olympiakos — Galakos, Mihos, Syntopoulos.

Teams — HELLAS: Rolly; Kalarafidis, Kondarinos, Baxter, Turner; Chistopoulos, (Kent 87th), Drakeford, Wright; Summing, Evans, Lujic (Ristovski half time).

OLYMPIAKOS: Arvanitis; Syntopoulos, Mihos, Papadopoulos, Theodoridis; Perone (Kokolekia 82nd), Galakos Zanthopoulos; Lo-sanda (Lemonia 39th), Antoniadis (Kritikopoulos 48th), Katsas. Referee: Nick Karlich.

In Adelaide: PHILIPS LEAGUE (McGregor) OLYMPIAKOS 2 (Kambas own goal, Kritikopoulos).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Crook (Marshall); Reynolds, Kambas, Jones, B. Nykhus (Bozanic); Perin, McCachey, Boyle; J. Nykhus.

RINGOV STAR OF VARDAR TOUR

After an acclimatisation period during which it lost 3-4 to a combined Footscray-South Melbourne team and drew 3-3 with Preston Macedonia, visiting Yugoslav team Vardar Skopje went on to play some breathtaking soccer during its off-season tour.

Vardar was seen at its best out-playing a combined Philips League XI 5-1 in Sydney and beating the Australian under 19 team 5-1 in Melbourne.

Striker Vasil Ringov, who scored a hat-trick in Sydney, was by far the most exciting player of the tour. He would compare favourably with any forward in the world.

The visit coincided with the birthday of Vardar's coach Stjepan Bobek.

The great Partizan forward of old, who scored a record 37 goals in 65 international games for Yugoslavia, turned 55 on the day that Vardar lost 3-4 to Footscray-South Melbourne at Middle Park.

On his arrival in Australia, Bobek said that in his era — the era of Djetkovic, Vukac, Hidzokovic, Matthews, Puskas and the other greats — the gifted players were much better than they are now.

‘We had as much space in the forties and fifties. Boys had many paddocks on which to play soccer, on which to practice and develop their skills simply for the fun of it.

‘Today all the land is built up. Players don't develop naturally any more. They are manufactured.’

But at least some of the Vardar players showed the virtuosity of those past champions.

Apart from Ringov, there are also Nedzipo, a nippy little attacking midfielder, and captain Koco Dimitrovski, a clever organiser in defence who also moved up to support attacks.

The tour started badly for Vardar when Atanas Gencarov was sent off by referee David Yelland in the 40th minute of the match against Footscray-South Melbourne.

Yelland said afterwards ‘Gencarov had grabbed him by the arm and had spat.



Stjepan Bobek

by Mendo Ristovski who scored two of the goals.

The Philips League XI coached by Rale Rasic in Sydney, didn't know what had hit them after Vardar found its best form to win 5-1.

The local combination had little understanding, which was the result of having had only a few training runs together.

In the match against the under 19s, the more experienced Vardar players were untroubled and vir-



Three of the Olympiakos stars, from left: Papadopoulos, Kritikopoulos, Antoniadis.

Theodoridis; Perone (Kokolekia 82nd), Galakos Zanthopoulos; Lo-sanda (Lemonia 39th), Antoniadis (Kritikopoulos 48th), Katsas. Referee: Nick Karlich.

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ΑΠΟ ΤΗΝ ΚΙΝΗΛΗ ΤΩΝ ΜΙΚΡΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΟΜΑΔΩΝ

Με τόν συνεργάτη μας Μ.Η. ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΟΣ: ‘Ο Πανελλήνιος άπέκτησε τόν πρώην άμυντικό τού ΜΕΓΑ ‘ΑΛΕΞ Νταβιντσόν.

‘Επίσης δέν άποκλείεται ή άποκτήρη και τόν γνωστόν μας Πέτλαν οί όποιος έρχεται πάλι στήν Μελβούρνη. ‘Ο ‘Αλέξανδρος στόν άποστον άνήκει ο παίκτης θά ήττησει, γύρω στή χίλια δολάρια.

‘ΕΡΑΚΛΗΣ: Με προπονητή τόν φιλότιμο κ.Μαρίση ξεκίνησε ασιδούχο ο ‘Ερακλής. ‘Όπως άκούσαμε τό ταμείο τού κυανόλευκου συλλόγου έχει αττή τήν στιγμή 9.000 δολάρια κάτι ποό τού έπιτρέπει με μιá καλή άγορά να καλύψει τό κενό ποό άρρασε ο Σαχινλόνς.

‘Ο Νίκος Ρακοβαλός ποό βρέθηκε πέρυσι στόν ‘Ερακλή, τώρα προπονητεί με τήν Χακία Μελβούρνης ή όποια μάλλον θά κληρώσει 2.500 δολάρια γιά να τόν πάρει.

‘Ν.Ε.ΛΑΑΣ: ‘Η ‘Ομάδα τού Πόρτ Μέλμπορν γιά μιá ακόμη φορά είναι ή διοργανώτρια τού θέρων τουνούναλ και μαζί με τόν ‘Ερακλή και τς άπόλοιτες ελληνικές ομάδες θα προσπαθήσουν να παρουσιάσουν ένα καλό ποδοσφαιρικό θέαμα.

Αισιοδοξία άκόμη κατέχει τούς πάντες στήν Ν.Ε.ΛΑΑΣ κι ‘όπως μας είπε ο γενικός άρχηγός κ.Μανώλης Βάσης ο σύλλογος θά έχει καλή πορεία στό πρωτάθλημα.

‘Α.Ε.ΣΑΝΔΡΟΣ.Β.: Σωστός βάσεις άρχισε να βάσει ο πρόεδρος τού συλλόγου κ.Φ. Καρυλίδης. ‘Όπως μας είπε ο έλεγκτής παράγω ο πρώτος στόχος είναι τό ήθος τών παικτών.

‘ΠΕΛΟΠΑΣ: Χρυσή χρονιά θά έχει ο Πέλοπας φέτος στό πρωτάθλημα τού Προβόλτσιοναλ άγής τής Β’ κατηγορίας. Τεχνικός ή γέτης άνάλαβε ο Μάνος Μήλιος ο όποιος πέρυσι άνέδειξε πρωταθλητή τήν ομάδα τού ‘Ακλή. Τήν ομάδα τού Χάδρον φέτος θά ένισχυθούν οί άδελφοί Γιάργος και Βασιλός Καμπυλίδης. Καί οί δύο ποσοβαριότητα παραχωρήσαν από τόν Πανελλήνιο οί άνδρωποι τού όποίου δέξουν θερμά συγχαρητήρια. Γιά τούς άδελφούς Καμπυλίδη οί Κέπταιν τού Πέλοπα Τήνης Γκατλινός είπε: ‘Πρόκειται γιά θαυμάσιους παίκτες και πάνω άπ’όλα είναι ού έπλοχοι χαρακτήρες.

‘ΜΟΥΡΑΠΗΝΑ: ‘Η νέα ελληνική ομάδα τού ‘Ακλή με πρόεδρο τόν εραστήριο κ.‘Αλαβέρα άρχισε να συγκεντρώνει πολλούς παίκτες τής περιοχής οί όποιοι θέλουν να φορέσουν τήν κυανόλευκη φανέλλα.

‘ΚΑΙΩΤΩΝ ΧΙΛΑ: Τό κάλφισον χιλά άπέκτησε τόν δυναμικό κυνηγό τής Ν.Ε.ΛΑΑΣ και τόκ άκόρρε Γιάννη Λιακνίκου. ‘Όπως μας έδήλωσε ο πρόεδρος κ.Φ.Σκορδουλής, τό κάλφισον χιλά φέτος θά κάνει πρωταθλητισμό.

‘ΕΡΜΗΣ ΜΕΛΤΩΝ: Σκοπεύει θηλά στήν νέα σαιζόν ο ΕΡΜΗΣ και γι’αυτό όπως μάθαμε προέλαβε γιά προπονητή τόν ‘Οσκαρ ‘Οντάλβα. ‘Επίσης προκειται να ένισχυθεί με δύο τρεις ακόμη καλούς ποδοσφαιριστές. Πάντως δέν θά είναι εκπλήξεις άν τό κώπελλο τών ‘6’ τό κερδίσει ο ΕΡΜΗΣ ποό είναι και ή διοργανώτρια ομάδα.

‘ΑΒΥΝΙΑΔΑΣ: ‘Η ‘Ομάδα τού Μρανγουιτς ξεκινάει φέτος τελείως άλλαγμένη και με όρεξη. ‘Όπως ήδη διαπιστώσαμε ολόκληρο τό διοικητικό συμβούλιο εργάζεται σωστά και δραστήρια.

‘ΤΑ ΤΖΟΥΝΙΟΡΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔ: ‘Αρχίζουν προπονήσεις τά τζούνιόρς τής ‘Ελλάς στίς 11 φεβρουαρίου και ώρα 10 π.μ. στό Κιντλ Πάρκ.

‘ΜΑΔΕΡΝ ΕΙΤΙ: ‘Όσοι γονείς έπιθυμούν να γράψουν τά παιδιά τους στά τζούνιόρς τού συλλόγου να τηλεφωνήσουν στίς 509-7724.

‘ΧΕΛΑΕΝΙΚ ΚΑΙ: Στίς 4 φεβρουαρίου άρχίζει τό χελλένικ κάπ στό γήπεδο τού Πόρτ Μέλμπορν. Οί συναγήςσεις τής πρώτης ήμέρας έχουν ως έξής: ΚΛΙΤΩΝ ΧΙΛΑ - ΣΕΛΑΡΤΟΝ ΑΒΥΝΙΑΔΑΣ - ΓΙΑΡΡΑΒΙΑ Μ. Μ.



MONEY MAGIC

with Michael Morley

My first article for "Soccer Action" is intended to help those readers who have an interest but a limited knowledge of Soccer-pools. Each week I shall be giving some hints and introducing a different plan for betting on the Pools.

Towards the end of the English season I will give you some statistics on the Australian matches for last year and hopefully this will prove to be useful in your Soccer-pools betting.

I would like to offer some advice and encouragement to the Pools punters still awaiting their first win. Have patience. I know of several regular investors that have not collected a minor dividend as yet — and I dare say there are many others in the same category.

Remember that a consistent method of selection, coupled with a good plan is the key to success. If you follow these lines, then some

Try a planned entry...

useful returns should start coming your way.

Most people who play the Soccerpools will be aware that there are several schools of thought on how to choose your selections. For example, there are the birthday number gamblers, and those who look to the stars or cars, while others study the form, and last but not least, the punters who rely on the pin.

There are other methods, but those mentioned are probably some of the most popular.

Later on I shall take a closer look at the various systems used for forecasting results. This week I shall concentrate on the logic behind making a planned entry.

The system entries allow us to bet from 11 to 14 numbers on the Soccerpools. If we want to go beyond that

number of selections we must use several system entries — and if we do this it is best to give some thought to our investment by making it a planned entry.

In theory, the more matches we use, the greater are our chances of winning. If we put this into practice, the theory will hold good, providing that we arrange our selections into an organised or closely knit group of entries.

Normally, the more games we cover the more expensive the outlay, but as you will see I have devised a plan to cover 15 matches in 2,475 lines. A full permutation of 8 from 15 would require 6,435 lines.

having 8 or 9 score draws in your numbers, and discovering that they fail to fall together.

This could be the painful outcome if you take a number of selections and enter them in a haphazard fashion.

If you study the diagram below you will see that this plan will involve the use of five entry forms and completing five entries of system 12.

At \$1.50 for each entry the investment will cost \$7.50.

This plan provides a sound guarantee. If any 9 of your 15 selections are score draws you are certain to win at least one first dividend.

Apart from getting the top prize you would also be assured of winning many minor dividends. An outlay of \$7.50 might be too much for the average punter but I feel sure that this amount is well within the reach of a small syndicate.

If you would like to do this plan and have your own favourite numbers, you will note that I have left a blank line for your selections.

When you have marked your selections in the blank line, use the corresponding X's as set out in the example as you transfer your numbers onto the entry forms.

Until next week, good luck and good punting.

YOUR SELECTIONS →	3 6 12 16 18 19 21 26 27 38 40 42 45 48 53
1 ST ENTRY	
15 MATCH 2 ND ENTRY	
PLAN 3 RD ENTRY	
4 TH ENTRY	
5 TH ENTRY	

Of the 55 British matches on the Pools coupon last week-end, there were 8 score draws and 5 scoreless draws.

The score draws (three points) were ... 2, 6, 17, 18, 32, 35, 42, 46.

The scoreless draws (2 points) were ... 4, 13, 16, 23, 31.

Weekend results:

ENGLISH FA CUP FOURTH ROUND:

Accrington 2, Notts County 0; Ipswich Town 0, Orient 1; Newcastle United 1, Wolverhampton Wanderers 1; Nottingham Forest 3, York City 1; Chesham Town 2, Walsley 0.

SCOTTISH FA CUP THIRD ROUND: Aberdeen 0, Airdrieonians 1; East Fife 0, Berwick Rangers 1; Hamilton Academical 0, Albion 2; Raith Rovers 0, Hearts 1; Dunfermline 1, Hibernian 1.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE: Exeter City 1, Brentford 0; Oxford United 1, Wycombe Wanderers 2; Plymouth Argyle 2, Sheffield Wednesday 0.

DIVISION FOUR: Torquay United 1, Darlington 0.

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO: East Dundee 4, Dundee 1.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Weymouth 2, A.P. Lymington 1; Totton 0, Kettering 1.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

HOME	AWAY
P W D L F A Pts	P W D L F A Pts
Walsley	28 9 3 2 30 14 7 2 22 15 37
Sheff Wed	23 6 0 17 6 5 4 2 14 10 20
Exeter	23 9 0 10 16 4 2 5 12 10 30
Birmingham	24 5 1 22 11 7 2 10 30 30
Sheff Wed	23 6 0 17 6 5 4 2 14 10 20
Exeter	24 9 4 2 26 11 1 3 5 12 30
Cardiff	23 5 0 16 15 2 7 3 10 27
Plymouth	24 6 1 16 11 4 3 5 12 30
Barnet	22 8 0 15 15 2 4 5 11 24
Cheltenham	23 7 3 12 9 2 3 7 11 24
Southend	22 6 3 17 11 4 3 5 12 30
Cheltenham	23 5 0 16 16 2 4 4 12 23
Oxford	24 5 0 14 11 1 5 9 18 23
Blackpool	22 7 2 10 15 2 7 2 11 21
Hull	21 4 1 16 11 3 1 10 17 21
Colchester	23 6 1 15 9 0 5 7 19 21
Sheff Wed	25 7 3 12 8 0 4 5 7 19 21
Sheff Wed	22 6 2 16 11 4 3 5 12 30
Peterborough	25 4 5 13 12 1 5 6 11 20
Bury	22 8 3 16 16 1 7 1 14 19
Manitoba	22 12 2 8 16 11 4 3 5 12 30
Walsley	24 4 3 20 16 2 3 14 23 18
Torquay	22 5 6 2 15 13 0 10 9 26 13
Lincoln	24 1 5 1 20 12 1 11 7 28 10

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR

HOME	AWAY
P W D L F A Pts	P W D L F A Pts
Parton	24 9 2 12 12 5 2 5 21 32
Widnes	22 9 1 12 12 4 5 2 16 32
Albion	25 8 4 11 21 9 3 3 14 32
Grimsby	22 6 2 9 12 4 2 5 12 19
Reading	23 2 2 24 5 3 4 5 13 30
Samuel	21 8 2 22 10 5 3 1 13 29
Wigan	22 6 2 9 12 4 2 5 12 19
Newport	24 5 4 17 17 4 2 16 15 25
Peterborough	25 4 3 19 18 5 1 16 20 25
Sheff Wed	24 6 2 21 18 4 6 14 21 24
Torquay	22 7 1 2 16 7 3 1 11 28 23

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Birmingham City v Queens Park Rangers, Bolton Wanderers v Everton, Middlesbrough v Derby County.

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

Cambridge United v Millwall, Cardiff City v West Ham United, Luton Town v Stoke City.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

Bury v Tranmere Rovers, Hull City v Exeter City, Mansfield Town v Rotherham United, Peterborough United v Chesterfield, Swansea City v Chester, Walsley v Blackpool.

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR

Barnsley v Doncaster, Bournemouth v Port Vale, Bradford City v Wigan Athletic, Crawley Town v Crewe Alexandra, Halifax Town v Hartlepool, Hereford v Rochdale, Northampton v Huddersfield Town, Portsmouth v Aldershot, Reading v Walsley.

SCOTTISH FA CUP THIRD ROUND

Ayr United v Dumbarton, Clyde v Kilmarnock, Clydebank v Queens Park, Dundee v Alloa, Dundee United v St Mirren, Morton v St Johnstone, Motherwell v Celtic, Rangers v Motherwell, Stirling Albion v Partick Thistle.

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

Abertawe v Cowdenbeath, Brechin City v Stirling Albion.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

HOME	AWAY
P W D L F A Pts	P W D L F A Pts
Hartlepool	22 4 6 2 18 13 3 3 4 7 16 23
Hereford	22 5 5 1 18 11 3 1 7 12 16 23
Sheff Wed	22 5 1 16 17 1 5 5 9 14 22
Bradford	22 6 2 3 18 13 4 0 5 14 24
Bournemouth	23 5 5 16 12 2 4 5 8 10 20
Hull City	24 7 1 16 8 0 2 8 16 20
Northampton	22 4 4 2 16 12 1 1 11 11 20
York	21 4 3 11 11 4 1 8 18 20
Darlington	24 3 5 13 10 3 2 8 15 19
Doncaster	22 4 4 15 14 2 2 6 12 18
Crewe	22 2 2 22 15 3 5 9 20 16
Rochdale	23 2 3 5 14 1 4 8 9 23 13
Hull City	21 3 6 5 14 0 2 11 18 20

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

HOME	AWAY
P W D L F A Pts	P W D L F A Pts
Falkirk	19 1 6 2 14 4 3 13 9 10 20
Berwick	19 2 3 2 23 15 5 2 10 15 25
Dunfermline	18 7 2 12 11 2 5 2 12 15 25
East Fife	22 2 2 25 18 3 3 12 15 25
Fife	21 6 3 2 22 15 3 5 14 14 24
Cowdenbeath	21 5 3 16 9 3 3 6 15 22
Queen's Park	22 5 3 12 10 4 1 8 20 20
Alloa	21 4 5 16 12 1 1 6 12 20 20
Stranraer	23 6 1 16 13 3 1 8 11 27 20
Stirling	22 5 4 25 13 2 1 11 15 18
Greenock	20 4 2 19 17 0 5 11 19 17
Stirling Albion	21 4 7 21 21 3 2 4 7 13 17
Greenock	21 4 1 11 17 2 2 8 12 22 17
Albion R.	19 3 1 11 9 2 2 8 18 26 13

Leading scorers in England:

DIVISION ONE

17 — Frank Worthington (Bolton).

16 — Frank Stapleton (Arsenal).

16 — Bob Latchford (Everton).

13 — Alan Buckley (Birmingham, Tony Brown (West Bromwich) Liam Brady (Aston).

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

HOME	AWAY
P W D L F A Pts	P W D L F A Pts
Parton	24 9 2 12 12 5 2 5 21 32
Widnes	22 9 1 12 12 4 5 2 16 32
Albion	25 8 4 11 21 9 3 3 14 32
Grimsby	22 6 2 9 12 4 2 5 12 19
Reading	23 2 2 24 5 3 4 5 13 30
Samuel	21 8 2 22 10 5 3 1 13 29
Wigan	22 6 2 9 12 4 2 5 12 19
Newport	24 5 4 17 17 4 2 16 15 25
Peterborough	25 4 3 19 18 5 1 16 20 25
Sheff Wed	24 6 2 21 18 4 6 14 21 24
Torquay	22 7 1 2 16 7 3 1 11 28 23

European scores

GREECE

Apolon 2, Panathinaikos 0; Epikos 3, Kavala 0; Panathinaikos 1, Chalkiras 0; Olympiakos 2, OFI 0; Vassilou 1, Iraklis 1; Larissa 0, Asteras 0; Rodos 2, Panathinaikos 1; Iraklis 2, Panathinaikos 1.

ITALY

Azzurri 0, Napoli 0; Fiorentina 0, Catanzaro 2; Avellino 1, Milan 0; Fiorentina 0, Torino 0; Lazio 0, Bologna 0; Juventus 2, Lazio 1; Vicenza 1, Perugia 1; Roma 2, Verona 0.

PORTUGAL

Benfica 1, Sporting 1; Estrela 0, Benfica 1; Benfica 1, Académico de Viseu 1; Académico de Viseu 2, Benfica 1; Benfica 1, Benfica 1; Benfica 1, Benfica 1.

SCOTLAND

The draw for the Scottish FA Cup Fourth Round, to be played on Saturday Feb 17th, is:

WEST GERMANY

Ambler 1, Schalke 0; Eintracht Frankfurt 0; Bayern Munich 2, Schalke 0; Schalke 0, Schalke 0; Schalke 0, Schalke 0.

NETHERLANDS

PSV Eindhoven 1, Feyenoord 0; Feyenoord 1, PSV Eindhoven 0; Feyenoord 1, PSV Eindhoven 0; Feyenoord 1, PSV Eindhoven 0.

COOL IT OR GET HOT!

ESSENDON CROATIA 3 (Kerr 25th min, Gardiner 61st min, Andrews 73rd min) PRESTON MAKE-DONIA 1 (Tuffield 50th min) at B.T. Cornor Reserve. Crowd: 1800

CROATIA: Banovic 7, Smart 6, Cotic 5, Gardiner 6, Andrews 6, Kerr 6, Murphy 6 (Fruin 59th min), Cummings 6, Glaser 9, Cullen 6 (Lonscar 63rd min).

PRESTON: Kastner 7, Petrov 7, Hooper 5 (Brownson 5, half time), Gardiner 6, Majdovski 5 (Rigby 6 half time), Rainey 9, Bernard 7 (Abram 65th min), Petrovski 5 (Boech 65th min), Macdonald 6 (Macdonald 6, half time), McCann 6, Faulkner 6.

A long-standing rift between Macedonian and British players at Preston will come to a head tomorrow night (Thursday).

The rivalries of the two rival groups will be summed up at training and given an ultimatum. Cool it, or get out!

It is expected that one of the leaders and several of his supporters will be kicked out of the club and placed on the transfer list.

Hated between the two sides runs so deep that the leaders don't speak to each other, even though they have been playing together for the past two years.

Manager Tony Vrzina said he has conferred with the club's executive and been given the power to end the trouble.

"We will not allow the conflict between the Macedonians and the British to continue," he said. "A team needs harmony both on and off the field. Preston must get rid of the problem or the club will waste another year."

The eradication of the rift will throw Preston's playing squad into more confusion.

Only five of the 15 players used by Preston against Croatia could be called "certain" to remain in the squad. They are

Lou Kastner, Dave Garthwaite, Mike Rainey, George McMillan and Jeff Faulkner.

Of the rest, four are on trial and have yet to be signed and six have a question mark about their future.

Preston's lack of cohesion brought it unstuck against the well-organised, settled Croatia team.

Poor performances by Preston's defence from the onset gave Croatia the upper hand.

Target man, Carl Gilder, Croatia's best player, easily escaped his markers and midfielders found him in space time and time again.

Tommy Cumming was in and out with flashes of explosive acceleration on the flanks while John Gardiner after moving into midfield after half time, showed he still is one of the best linkmen in the State League.

Croatia's goals were scored by the team's midfielders, which is a good sign. If

Gilder continues to play well, laying the ball off, and the midfielders give him support, Croatia will be as strong as last year.

Preston continues to show a leaning towards hitting long balls for McMillan and Faulkner to race onto. However, the side lacks a commanding midfielder who can hit accurate long passes when they are on, and slow the game down when the long ball isn't possible.

Mike Rainey was excellent in the middle, coming from behind to feed balls to forwards and other midfielders.

Faulkner, gave another fine display on the forward line. He has speed, good ball control, the ability to drift into space on the forward line and is a creator as well as a finisher of goals.

Overall, Croatia's better organisation and understanding between players and its superior class, was too much for Preston, which is in the process of establishing a squad.

— KYLE PATTERSON



MELITA, AJAX LOOKING GOOD

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Melita Eagles and Green Gully Ajax should both do well in their respective State Leagues, but George Cross may find the going tough if it does not recruit some reinforcements.

They are the impressions left by Melita's two friendly matches at Green Gully Reserve, St Albans (Vic) last Saturday and Sunday.

Ajax and Melita each received a trophy from the Maltese Herald and ASL Finance, for winning a match each.

A total of at least 4000 people watched the three Maltese teams over the two days.

Stars of the mini-tournament were Andy Segi, Willie Vassallo (Ajax), Joe Farrugia, Terry Jones, Vernon Darvill, Colin McCausland, Brian Parker (Melita) and John Webb (George Cross).

George Cross lined up without Jim Pappas, who had stitches in an injured ankle, and without Robert Cullen and Ken Reed who are both determined to leave the club.

Preston-Makedonia has offered about \$6,000 for Cullen and APFA is believed to be still interested in Reed.

Without these three, George Cross has problems. In his search for replacements, coach John Sanchez tried out seven new players in the match against Melita — Wayne Montgomery, Ray Rizzo, Ahmed Seve, Laurie Bilisic, Charlie Rizzo, Taded Gurevli and goalkeeper Con Dimopoulos from St Albans.

Only Mizzi looked good enough to play in the State League, so the Cross is back to square one.

Andy Segi had a great game in Ajax's 3-2 victory over Melita after extra time and may be in for a fine season, providing he overcomes a leg ailment which could require an operation.

Steve Carr is also set for a great season. He is showing more aggression, imagination and intelligence than last year, which was his first in Australia after arriving from England.

In midfield, Willie Vassallo played with his characteristic panache. If his various injuries have finally cleared up, we'll finally see the best of Vassallo in 1979.

Coach Billy Vojtek, although only half fit, showed glimpses of his form in midfield and Ian McCarthy was as busy as ever.

However, the defence is still awaiting the return of John Cain, who will no doubt replace Nigel Daniels. Steve Bennie is also to be included as soon as he recovers from injury.

If the players improve their fitness, Ajax will have its best year since being promoted to State League.

A midfield of McCarthy, Bennie and Vassallo and an attack of Carr, Segi and Vojtek constitute a sound foundation for a winning team.

Melita coach Raoul Bilisic is entitled to feel quite optimistic about the NSW State League season but he could do with a little height and strength in attack.

The two little fellows, Brian Parker (ex-Olympic) and especially Terry Jones, were impressive, but they would be even better with a big man helping them out front.

Melita did not show up as well as it could have. The strongest department of the Melita team appears to be the McCausland-Darville midfield partnership.

Forward Joe Farrugia played in midfield against Ajax because Vernon Darville couldn't get to Melbourne until the following day. Farrugia showed his value in attack when he was moved there during extra time against Ajax but he had a quiet game against George Cross.

The strongest department of the Melita team appears to be the McCausland-Darville midfield partnership.

Saturday:

GREEN GULLY AJAX 3 (Segi 60th & 62nd, Perkins 105th) **MELITA-EAGLES 2** (Jones 35th, J. Farrugia 80th) after extra time.

RAJAX: Denys 6, Donaldson 6, Daniels 6, Patten 6, Crilly 6; McCarthy 7, Vojtek 6 (Thompson 6 half time) Vassallo 7, Tribuzio 5 (Perkins 6 half time), Segi 9, Carr 7.

MELITA: Backflow 7; Hernandez 6 (replaced Yamine 3rd, min replaced by Hansen 100th) Ververis 6, Milica 7, McPherson 5 (sent off, 107th); J. Farrugia 8, McCausland 7, R. Farrugia 7; McGovern (injured, Babin 50th min) Jones 6, Parker 6.

GEORGE CROSS 1 (Scicluna 60th) **MELITA-EAGLES 2** (Parker 35th & 40th).

RAJAX: GEORGE CROSS: Dimopoulos 5 (Mataoon 5, half time); Cutajar 6 (Gurevli 5 half time), Maitland 6, Webb 6, Barron 5 (Bilicic 4 55th) Mirak 5 (Rizzo 4 h), Castella 6, Wilkinson 5, Montgomery 4 (Mirak 6 half time) Sevic 3.

MELITA: Backflow 7; Hernandez 6, Ververis 6, Milica 7, McPherson 5 (Smith 5, half time); Darvill 6, McCausland 7, R. Farrugia 5, (Babin 55th) Parker 6; Jones 8, J. Farrugia 6.